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'Mad Cow' in Humans: It's One in a Million

Researchers Hunt for Causes — Environment? Diet? What?

By Lawrence K. Altman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The epidemic of "mad cow" disease in England has focused worldwide attention on the human version of the ailment, the fatal malady known as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. It is one of a small group of obscure diseases called spongiform encephalopathies because they produce holes in various areas of the brain, giving it a pitted appearance like Swiss cheese.

Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease affects on average about one person in a million worldwide each year. Now that a British committee has tentatively linked it to mad cow disease, a question is raised: How many, if any, of these cases are caused by something in the diet or environment?

The natural history of the mysterious malady may shed light on its cause, and may also help clarify the nature of other brain-destroying diseases like Alzheimer's, to which Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease seems related by symptoms and pathology. With both diseases, waxy deposits known as amyloid plaques are seen under the microscope in stricken nerve cells.

Until now, the best known of the spongiform diseases has been kuru, believed to result from ritualistic cannibalism among the Fore group in the Highlands of Papua-New Guinea. It has largely disappeared now that such practices have ceased.

D. Carleton Gajdusek's Nobel Prize-winning research proving that kuru and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease were transmissible to animals opened a new era in the investigation of what had been previously thought chronic degenerative diseases.

Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease usually strikes people in their 50s and 60s, after taking years or even decades to develop. But once symptoms begin, the course is swift and relentless. Destruction of brain cells impairs an individual's ability to think, see, speak and move. Muscles go into spasm, becoming rigid and jerky. Balance is lost. The dementia that develops mimics Alzheimer's disease, a related disorder that is not classified as a spongiform disease.

Doctors have found Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease everywhere in the world they have looked. Among its most famous victims was George Balanchine, the choreographer, who died in New York City in 1983.

Dr. Paul Brown, an expert in spongiform diseases at the National Institutes of Health, has cited two age-related riddles that, if solved, could help point to when the disease is acquired: Why is middle age the most common time for symptoms to develop? And why does the incidence of the disease suddenly drop around the age of 75? In contrast, the incidence of a more common dementing disorder, Alzheimer's disease, continues to increase with advancing age.

Researchers ask another question: Does some seemingly trivial event that occurs at a young age herald Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease much later in life?

Like Alzheimer's, the spongiform diseases can be diagnosed with cer-

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Alexander Natruskin/Reuters

TWO-STEP — Boris Yeltsin doing a little dance Tuesday in Moscow after signing a pact with Belarus. Page 7.

Russia Balks At Supplying Arms Sales Data to West

Vienna Conference Surprised by Shift On Weapons Control

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

Exhibiting fresh concern about its potential earnings from weapons exports, Moscow balked Tuesday at disclosing arms-sales information required by a new international organization designed to curb the spread of sensitive military technology, according to Western officials.

Amid strong concern in Washington over any public dispute with the Russian leader, Boris N. Yeltsin, during his campaign for re-election, the incident seemed unlikely to be allowed to threaten U.S. support for Mr. Yeltsin or jeopardize major commitments such as a credit package promised to Russia by the International Monetary Fund.

But the Russian attitude caused consternation Tuesday at a 31-nation meeting in Vienna convened to launch a successor organization to Cocom, a secretive committee of NATO countries that supervised military sales during the Cold War. It was replaced last year with a much looser system — largely at Russia's insistence that it wanted to be a full partner in gaining access to Western technology and protecting it from falling into the wrong hands.

Russia's sudden refusal to supply the arms-sales data — relatively routine information that does not involve nuclear materials — appeared to take the Clinton administration by surprise, and U.S. officials declined any detailed comment beyond saying that "we're still working the issue to find some momentum."

Despite his hint that the deadlock might be only temporary, the Vienna incident appeared to fit the pattern of Moscow's hardening tone on military matters, including NATO enlargement, the war in Chechnya, arms-control disputes and arms sales. Russian officials had pledged to comply with the reporting requirement in talks last year in the Netherlands that produced the so-called Wassenaar export control system.

A sharp acceleration in Russian arms sales has emerged in announcements made over the past few weeks, with Moscow saying that military exports will nearly double this year to $7 billion — after doubling last year from $1.5 billion in 1994. That would make weapons a major export and hard-currency earner for Russia, effectively ending hopes that Moscow could convert much of its military industry to civilian production.

Russia's main arms customer is India, followed by China, which has bought submarines, Sukhoi fighter-bombers and other very advanced weaponry. Other key Russian customers include Iran and Syria and, according to recent reports, Libya.

While the United States has complained about some of these deals, Moscow's reticence seemed surprising because the Vienna meeting sought data only on past arms sales, not planned deals. That provision made some officials hopeful that Russian reluctance was only temporary. But if the deadlock persists, it will badly undermine the future credibility of the fledging export-control organization, whose main purpose is not to control sales of conventional weaponry but to prevent the proliferation of mass-destruction weaponry.

Already the new body — which is to be chaired by Germany — is under attack among U.S. conservatives as a toothless organization that carries little weight with any government. Amid intense competition to export technology, Western governments abandoned the key feature of Cocom that required governments to get prior approval from other members for any high-tech export.

Beijing Tries New Tack on Hong Kong

A Soothing Advertising Campaign Follows Last Week's Threats

By Kevin Murphy
International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — Facing growing unease here about its plans after it takes over the colony, China opened a rare, soothing publicity campaign on Tuesday as it sought greater cooperation from the British colonial government on issues raised by the impending change of sovereignty.

Full-page advertisements in leading independent newspapers invited Hong Kong residents to offer their views on how to achieve a smooth transition of power on July 1 next year.

The unusual notices were the first public sign of Beijing's acknowledgment that a series of recent hard-line statements and gestures by Chinese officials had begun to take a toll on public confidence in Hong Kong.

At the same time, Governor Chris Patten said Tuesday that his government "would give proper consideration" to a Chinese list of specific areas where Beijing has outlined the need for close assistance in planning for the handover.

But Mr. Patten reaffirmed his government's backing for a local legislature that Beijing intends to abolish when it takes control of Hong Kong in 15 months' time.

"We'll do nothing whatsoever to undermine the authority, the legitimacy of Hong Kong's Legislative Council," said Mr. Patten, otherwise refusing to reveal China's requests or his government's response to them.

The Beijing-appointed Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, criticized at its inception by Mr. Patten and other local politicians as being unrepresentative of Hong Kong, placed the advertisements that appeared Tuesday.

In them the committee said that it "sincerely welcomes opinions and proposals from people of all circles of Hong Kong on matters concerning the smooth transition of Hong Kong, with a view toward building a better Hong Kong."

It also provided contact details for the committee's secretariat in both Beijing and Hong Kong, another uncommon step for a Chinese government body.

Early last week the same committee

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EU Farm Ministers Agree To Prop Up Beef Market

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

LUXEMBOURG — Seeking to placate European farmers whose beef prices have slumped because of the crisis over "mad cow" disease, the European Union offered Tuesday to buy up 50,000 tons of beef over the next month to steady the market.

But as an emergency meeting of European farm ministers dragged into a second, unscheduled day here, officials again wrangled into the night over ways to persuade nervous Europeans to start buying beef again following Britain's admission that mad cow disease in its cattle may cause a fatal disease in humans.

The German agriculture minister, Jochen Borchert, said the negotiations centered on a compromise that would maintain the European Union's worldwide ban on British beef exports — despite British objections — while offering British farmers financial support in disposing of older cattle.

Britain demanded Monday that the ban be lifted and that the EU pay 80 percent of the cost of destroying about 4 million cattle aged more than 30 months over the next five to six years — a stratagem that is supposed to sanitize its herd of 11 million.

Mr. Borchert said the compromise offered a 70 percent European Union share of the cost to British farmers of destroying cattle so that their carcasses did not enter the human food chain in any form: cuts of meat, offal or bone products. The spread of mad cow disease in Britain has been blamed on the use of ground-up animal matter in cattle feed.

The European Union proposal would cost the 15-nation body about

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Saddam Capitalizes on the New $100 Bill

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — When the United States introduced new $100 notes, Saddam Hussein's government seized on the announcement to give its embattled economy a boost.

"America Cancels $100 Bill," shouted the headline in the state-run newspaper Al-Jumhuriya, spreading panic among Iraqis who rely on the dollar as protection against hyperinflation.

One paper even ran a picture of an old $100 note, with a big black "X" across it.

Old dollars are still as valid as the new ones issued to foil counterfeiting, but in a rigidly controlled country where the government dictates the flow of information, the campaign was a huge success. Nervous Iraqis rushed to banks and black-market money-changers to exchange dollars for previously shunned Iraqi dinars.

Mr. Saddam's government, desperate for hard currency due to tough United Nations sanctions, received an infusion of tens of millions of dollars, according to estimates by diplomats in Baghdad. The dinar, which hit a record low of 3,000 to the dollar in December, has surged in value and is now relatively stable at around 700.

Philosophy Still Divides G-7 on Jobs

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — There was a little something for everyone at the Group of Seven jobs conference in France this week, except perhaps for the rich nations' 23 million unemployed.

The G-7 labor ministers who were present in Lille agreed Tuesday on worthy but predictable goals, such as economic growth, deficit reduction, better education, more mid-career retraining and free trade.

"Strong growth will undoubtedly help to reduce unemployment. But much will still remain to be done to address the structural problems that impede job creation and income growth,"

NEWS ANALYSIS

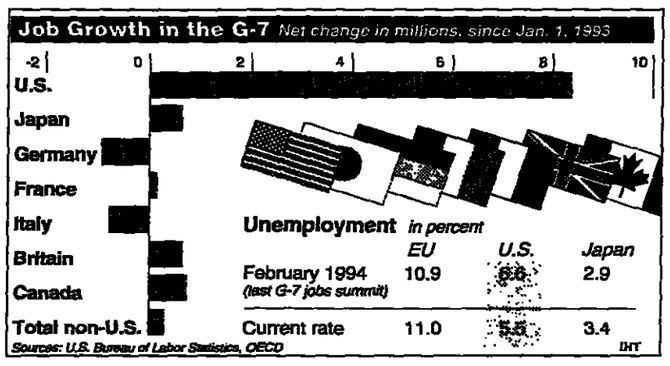
said a typical sentence in the closing statement.

But the officials, while putting on a show of unity in public, clashed behind closed doors over the contrast between the Anglo-Saxon approach to deregulating labor markets and the European predilection for preserving social cohesion and maintaining as much of the welfare state as is possible.

In a development with implications for trade liberalization, the ministers also clashed over France's proposal to impose labor standards on trading nations around the world.

They failed to agree on any uniform actions to increase employment throughout the Group of Seven industrialized countries — Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States. "Although there is no

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On Asia, Helms Comes Out Smoking

Longtime Vietnam Foe in Senate Champions His State's Tobacco Fields

By David E. Sanger
New York Times Service

DURHAM, North Carolina — As the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Jesse Helms leaves little doubt how he feels about the communist leaders of Vietnam.

Nine months after the Clinton administration formally recognized the Vietnamese government, Senator Helms is still blocking financing for the newly opened U.S. Embassy in Hanoi until the president certifies that there are no obstacles left in the search for possible American prisoners of war or those missing in action. In a speech last week he denounced Vietnam as one of Asia's "repressive governments," attacking its record on human rights.

So it might seem surprising that on Sunday night Senator Helms had a convivial, laughter-filled dinner here at the Angus Barn, a popular local steakhouse, with Le Van Bang, Vietnam's ambassador-designate to Washington, along with six other envoys from Southeast Asia.

"He told me we would get along very well," Mr. Bang said, surprised to find himself at Mr. Helms's dinner table. "After all, he is interested in promoting North Carolina."

In fact, Mr. Helms boasts that he intends to use his committee chairmanship to bring the world's most lucrative emerging markets to North Carolina's door. And the dinner on Sunday night was given by the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., the subsidiary of RJR-Nabisco that has long supported the senator and that has invested $21 million in a joint-venture cigarette factory in Da Nang, Vietnam.

At a moment when tobacco executives are fending off federal grand juries and corporate whistleblowers armed with embarrassing internal documents, Mr. Helms is doing what he can to make sure that North Carolina tobacco gains opportunities in Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. Mr. Bang, who

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France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

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Michel Lipchitz/The Associated Press

Paris workers installing one of Niki de Saint-Phalle's lyrical statues along the Champs-Elysées on Tuesday for a spring festival.

AGENDA

Bodies Found From Haitian Wreck

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Reuters) — United Nations civilian police have recovered 104 bodies from a shipwreck off southwestern Haiti, a UN spokesman said Tuesday.

"When we arrived, 88 bodies were still floating on the sea and 16 were found on the beach at Tiburon," Eric Falt, the spokesman, said, describing the location about 140 miles (225 kilometers) west of Port-au-Prince where a ferry hit rocks off southern Haiti and was wrecked last Thursday.

Mr. Falt said only three survivors had been confirmed and it was difficult to tell whether any more people might have survived. "It has been a long time" since the wreck, he said.

The boat, the Aviron I, a 45-foot (15-meter) ferry, left Les Irois in southern Haiti and was bound for Les Cayes when it ran onto the rocks. The owner of the boat sold 150 tickets for the ride, leaving 43 people still unaccounted for, Mr. Falt said.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
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5669.15	136.07

The Dollar

New York, Tues. @4 P.M.		previous close
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Yen	107.605	108.635
FF	5.0579	5.057

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Apartheid-Era Crimes / **South African Panel to Open Hearings**

Searching for the Truth, if Not Justice

By Lynne Duke
Washington Post Service

SOWETO, South Africa — Who murdered Sicelo Dlomo? The identity of the killer could finally be known. But for his grieving mother, that truth may never lead to justice.

A student activist in this huge black township southwest of Johannesburg during the 1980s, Sicelo Dlomo, 18, drew the wrath of the police. When he was not in jail, he lived on the run. Those close to him feared the police would kill him.

His mother, Sylvia Dlomo-Jele, tried to dissuade her son from his politics of protesting South Africa's racial separation. "But, Ma," Mr. Dlomo would say, "I'm just fighting for my rights."

On Jan. 23, 1988, he was shot in the head and left for dead in a field of tall grass not far from his mother's house. But the trail of truth in her son's killing stopped cold, leaving only a pain that his mother calls "everlasting." It is a pain shared by thousands of families who suffered under the white-minority government that ruled South Africa until two years ago.

Now, Mrs. Dlomo-Jele is preparing to take her son's story before South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which holds its first public hearings this month. Like other mothers, she is being asked by the new democratic government here to search for the truth and accept it — but then to let it go.

Whoever killed her son probably will go free, because justice — a goal of South Africa's long anti-apartheid struggle — is not in the mandate of the commission charged with helping the country come to terms with its past.

As part of the political compromise between the former white rulers and the current black-majority government, the truth commission has no power to prosecute or punish. Instead, it will offer amnesty to those who confess their crimes. Defenders of the truth commission say verifiable confessions accompanying amnesty applications and the public acknowledgment that a wrong was done are significant moral steps toward reconciliation.

"What we hate about the commission is it's being used by criminals who were supposed to be prosecuted long ago," said Churchill Mxenge, brother of Griffiths Mxenge, a lawyer who was stabbed to death in 1981, allegedly by police operatives.

The combination of truth-telling, compensation and amnesty, said Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a chairman of the commission, is the middle ground between "those who were saying let bygones be bygones and let's have amnesia, and on the other side those who wanted justice, really retribution."

CONSIDERING the threat of violence from the white right wing during South Africa's still delicate transition to majority rule, any move toward retribution could have left South Africa with "justice and ashes," Archbishop Tutu said.

Like similar truth commissions elsewhere in Africa as well as Latin America and Eastern Europe, South Africa's panel has generated controversy and bitterness over the extent of the truth it will uncover and the absence of justice from the process.

Mrs. Dlomo-Jele says it pains her to think that justice will not be done. But at least, she says, she has a chance of finding the truth.

"I want to tell the story," she said. "It's going to be strong when I go there personally. I will be saying it myself, and I think it is going to be heard." South Africa's truth commission offers many things: investigations of cases of human rights abuses by both the white government and black opposition groups; a protection program for vulnerable witnesses; reparations for survivors; a record of the scope of apartheid-era crimes and, it is hoped, a framework for a national process of forgiveness. The commission makes no distinction between abuses committed in the name of apartheid and its opposition.

Some people will go to the truth commission to learn how a loved one died or was tortured. Some will go to find out who did the wrong and why. Others will go because they do not know what else to do in the face of lingering pain and bitterness left by apartheid, which ended with South Africa's first nonracial, democratic election in 1994.

With so many expectations being heaped on this commission, "The question, then, is which of those can the commission deliver on?" said Graeme Simpson, director of Johannesburg's Center for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.

Other vexing questions are being asked as well: Without truth accompanied by justice, can there truly be national reconciliation? Should the nation's black majority be expected to forgive while the perpetrators of crimes go free?

Many similar questions have been raised in other countries that have tried, with varying degrees of success, to establish bodies to help reconcile abuses. Like most of them, South Africa's commission does not have prosecution powers. Unlike most, South Africa's commission is offering amnesty.

But the results of these commissions are difficult to characterize.

In Chile, which Archbishop Tutu said was a model for South Africa, nearly 3,000 cases of human rights violations were investigated and the process resulted in reparations for survivors. Still, political assassinations continued during the work of the commission, proving the fragility of attempts to reconcile with the past.

IN ARGENTINA, where the truth commission is still viewed as the world's most comprehensive, the cases of nearly 9,000 victims were documented.

White opponents of South Africa's truth commission fear it will conduct witch-hunts to track down security force members or officials accused of crimes. Their fears have been stoked by the current trial of a former defense minister, Magnus Malan, and several apartheid-era generals on murder and conspiracy charges. The convening of the truth commission here has not precluded courts from hearing such cases.

Few if any perpetrators of apartheid-era crimes have been held accountable in any way, although some of their identities are known, and the nation remains remarkably free of acts of retribution.

But there remain untold numbers of people such as Mrs. Dlomo-Jele who do not know who killed their relatives, why a son or daughter disappeared or where the remains of relatives are buried. Amid such lack of knowledge, truth-telling can be a powerful salve for collective wounds, proponents of the commission say.

The truth commission will convene for up to two years, investigating abuses that occurred between March 1960, the month that police gunned down 59 blacks in Sharpeville township, and December 1993, when a transitional arrangement was formalized in advance of the April 1994 election.

During that period, at least 80,000 people were detained and many were tortured, according to a report by the human rights group Africa Watch.

Among those who have applied for amnesty, according to truth commission officials, is Eugene deKock, former commander of a secret police base, who is on trial for 121 criminal charges, including eight of murder.

If he is granted amnesty for the crimes for which he is being tried, his trial would be canceled; amnesty granted for other crimes would render him immune from prosecution. Dirk Coetzee, another commander of the secret base, who has acknowledged his involvement in the death of Griffiths Mxenge, the murdered lawyer, also has applied for amnesty, truth commission officials say.

In some cases, such as that of Marius Schoon, whose wife, Jeanette, and 6-year-old daughter Katryn were killed in a bombing intended for him, civil suits have been initiated. In other cases, such as that of Steve Biko, who was beaten to death in police custody in 1977, family members are hoping a criminal case will be opened. The Biko and Mxenge families plan to challenge the truth commission's legitimacy in the Constitutional Court.

At the funeral of Griffiths Mxenge in 1981, Archbishop Tutu, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership in the anti-apartheid struggle, delivered the eulogy.

Churchill Mxenge remembers it sadly, saying, "He preached about justice, reassuring us that when the government of the people took over, justice will be done."





Sylvia Dlomo-Jete, left, standing by a tree near where the body of her son, Sicelo, above, was found. She is seeking to learn who shot him in the head and left him for dead in January 1988.

Nasahon Zaik/The Washington Post

COMING UP
In the long run, the success or failure of peace in Bosnia will come down to things as simple as the fate of Apartment 13, No. 3 Indira Gandhi Street. Once it was a sniper nest on the front lines between the Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Muslim Army.

Ahead of Vote, Ecuador Lets Privatization Banner Drop

By Gabriel Escobar
Washington Post Service

QUITO, Ecuador — Already a laggard on Latin America's road to modernization, Ecuador now finds itself conducting a presidential election in which the hemisphere's free-market economies are portrayed as the enemy, and the word privatization has almost disappeared from the political lexicon.

No matter who emerges victorious: it seems likely that this oil-rich and historically insular country will take a different course from that of its neighbors. Given the tenor of the campaign, the next government is likely to pursue a difficult balance between reducing the state's role in the economy and appeasing anxious workers and addressing the needs of the poor.

Evidence of this change of heart is most apparent in the slogan of Jaime Nebot Saadi, a conservative who is the favorite in the May vote, the fifth since democracy was restored in 1979. His pledges to put "people first" and to retain state control of major industries reflect a widespread sentiment that the country's limited experiment with a market economy has come at the expense of the majority of Ecuadoreans.

Analysts and other observers here say an important factor in forming this national attitude has been a public-relations nightmare caused by the government of President Sixto Durán Ballén, who sold the country on market reforms and then proved unable to carry them out.

A corruption scandal involving the leading architect of the economic plan, Vice President Alberto Dahik Garzoni, has so undermined the government's image that even significant accomplishments are now largely ignored.

Mr. Durán Ballén's administration reduced inflation to 25 percent from 60 percent, cut the bureaucracy by 30,000, produced a balanced budget in 1994 and negotiated entry into the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization. Exports to Colombia and Venezuela, the country's chief trading partners, rose from almost nothing to $800 million a year. The economy grew last year at a rate of 2.5 percent.

But promised privatization of major industries never materialized. The administration managed to push through the sale of some shares in banks and got Ecuador out of the cement and fertilizer businesses, but the only major progress in privatization in four years is that the telephone company may be put up for sale sometime this year.

"Did the government have communication problems?" asked Santiago Nieto Montoya, a political consultant and general manager of the polling firm Informe Confidencial. "It certainly did, and because of these communication problems, it was not able to modernize."

A relatively late entrant in the continent's march toward free markets, Ecuador faces several complicating factors, including pressure from strong unions and the perception that politicians who manage the reforms are either suspect or corrupt. Andrés Pérez Espinosa, the president of the Quito Chamber of Commerce, said of the economic changes that he believes are needed: "They are difficult to sell, and I admit that those of us who propose them have not done a good job selling them."

That, combined with a deep distrust of all government officials, has fed the campaign of Freddy Ehlers. A Brooklyn-born journalist whose disparate coalition includes Indians, labor unions and members of the conservative Catholic lay organization Opus Dei, he has risen from nowhere in just over a month to claim the No. 2 spot in the race.

Polls indicate that Mr. Nebot will not garner the 50 percent of the vote required to win on the first ballot, and Mr. Ehlers appears to be his likely opponent in the runoff. Mr. Ehlers's rise has come at the expense of traditional left and center-left candidates. However, pollsters do not give him much chance to defeat Mr. Nebot.

Giant Montreal Airport: Whitest of Elephants

By Anne Swardson
Washington Post Service

MIRABEL, Quebec — Canada is not known as a country of big dreams and grand visions. But anyone who doubts there are exceptions has only to drive north from Montreal on Highway 15.

Just under an hour's drive from town, rising silently out of the cow pastures, stands what may be Canada's biggest white elephant. For most of the day, no airplanes park at its gates, and almost no passengers walk through it. Mirabel Airport, which at its 1975 opening Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau said would be "the airport of the 21st century," is today a testament to the dangers of excessive optimism.

An under-performer since it opened, Mirabel is about to lose most of the little scheduled passenger business it has left. This winter, the Montreal airport authority, Aeroports de Montreal, announced that all scheduled international flights will be transferred to closer-in Dorval Airport by 1997. Only charter and cargo flights will remain; Mirabel has virtually no scheduled domestic service.

One recent afternoon, Mirabel's terminal was nearly empty. Three taxis stood idle in front, waiting for someone willing to pay $42 for the trip into town. Perhaps 20 people strolled around inside, none carrying luggage. All 12 Air Canada check-in counters were closed. So was the high-end restaurant, with a sign saying it would reopen in three days. Evenings are busier at Mirabel; even so, the sparkling-clean terminal had the look of a party to which no guests had come.

Mirabel was conceived in the days before separation struggles cast a pall over business in Quebec, before people and companies began fleeing the Montreal area, back when projections showed Montreal would just keep getting bigger and bigger. By 2000, according to old federal projections, 30 million people a year were to be flying into Montreal's two airports.

Things went awry from the beginning. At the opening ceremony, a Boeing 747 flew a jumbo load of dignitaries, including Mr. Trudeau and the premier of Quebec, to Mirabel from Dorval. They were to be put into one of the mobile lounges and shuttled to the ceremony in the terminal, but first one lounge and then a second one refused to function. The officials had to climb down a stairway from the plane and ride across the tarmac in cars. The crowd of 5,000, one newspaper columnist said recently, was the largest the airport would ever see.

As the years passed, two promised ground transportation connections were never built. The highway that was to run straight from Dorval to Mirabel stopped less than halfway there, and the high-speed rail line from downtown never got on track. Under Mirabel to this day is an empty cavern where the trains were supposed to run. Without that transport, Mirabel never attracted its share of domestic flights, and without enough domestic flights to feed into, international carriers found it hard to attract passengers.

Mirabel's paucity of traffic was illustrated by the fact that on most nights — the airport had no curfew — only one air traffic controller was on duty. In January 1986, a charter flight coming in from Acapulco with 169 passengers on board was unable to establish radio contact with the controller and landed at Mirabel assisted only by controllers at Dorval. Airport officials said later the controller had been taken ill; press reports said he had a reputation for sleeping on the job.

Airport officials were aware of Mirabel's image. In the 1980s, in fact, they adopted a white elephant as the airport's symbol in an attempt to deflect ridicule with humor. But there weren't many laughs, and one by one international airlines began slipping away.

After the flight transfers, Dorval will become more crowded than ever. The authority plans to spend $140 million to build a new wing for the additional flights, but passengers still will have to get there — over highways from Montreal that are already hopelessly crowded.

TRAVEL UPDATE

BBC to Broadcast in U.S.

LONDON (Reuters) — BBC World Service radio is starting a daily one-hour international news program Monday for audiences in the United States.

The British Broadcasting Corp. said the program, called "The World," is being launched jointly with Public Radio International in Minneapolis and WGBH in Boston.

A BBC spokesman said that stations in 27 leading U.S. cities had agreed to broadcast the program. A consortium of corporations, foundations and individuals has financed the $8 million startup and first-year costs.

Yemen on Monday announced a 25 percent increase in air fares to both foreign and domestic destinations on the two state-owned carriers, Yemenia and Al Yemen. Thousands of Yemenis are preparing to travel this month to Saudi Arabia for the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca. *(AFP)*

Cholera has killed 43 people in Zaire's capital, Kinshasa, medical sources said. They also said the number of reported cases has risen to 262, from 154. *(Reuters)*

South Africa will charge Mozambicans for entry visas, the independent Mediafax news service in Mozambique reported. The move is seen as retaliation for Mozambique's visa fees, which at $20 to $50 are considered exorbitant. *(AFP)*

Correction

An article on April 2 mischaracterized Malta's relationship to NATO's Partnership for Peace. Malta has accepted NATO's invitation to join. It will sign a detailed partnership program this month.

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Antigua ☑* (pay phones)	1-800-366-4663	Ecuador	999-171	Liechtenstein +	155-9777	Singapore +	8000-177-177
Argentina	001-800-777-1111	Egypt (Cairo) +	356-4777	Lithuania	8◆197	Slovak Republic +	0042-087-187
Armenia	8-10-155	El Salvador	800-1776	Luxembourg	0800-0115	South Africa +	0-800-99-0087
Aruba ☑	800-8870	Fiji Islands	004-890-100-3	Macao	0800-121	Spain	900-99-0013
Australia (Optus) +	1-800-5511-10	Finland +	9800-1-0284	Malaysia +	800-0016	Sweden +	020-799-011
Australia (Telstra) +	1-800-881-877	France +	19◆0087	Mexico +	95-800-877-8000	Switzerland +	155-9777
Austria +	022-903-014	Germany +	0130-0013	Monaco +	19◆0087	Syrian Arab Republic +★	0688
Bahamas +	1-800-389-2111	Greece +	008-001-411	Netherlands Antilles ★		Taiwan	0080-14-0877
Bahrain	800-777	Guam	950-1366	(Curacao & Saraire) +	001-800-745-1111	Thailand	001-999-13-877
Barbados ★	1-800-534-0042	Guatemala +	195	Netherlands +	06-022-9119	Turkey +	00-800-1-4477
Belgium +	0800-10014	Honduras ▲	121	New Zealand	000-999	Ukraine	8-100-15
Belize (hotel)	556	Hong Kong	800-1877	Nicaragua (Managua)	171	U.S. Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000
Belize (all other)	812	Hungary +	00◆800-01-877	Norway +	800-19877	U.S.A.	1-800-877-8000
Bermuda ★	1-800-623-0877	Iceland ++	800-9003	Panama	115	United Arab Emirates +	800-131
Bolivia	0800-3333	India +	000-137	Peru	176	United Kingdom (BT)	0800-89-0877
Brazil	000-8016	Indonesia (Indosat)	001-801-15	Philippines (ETPI stations only)	105-01	United Kingdom (Mercury)	0500-89-0877
British Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000	Indonesia (Satelindo)	008-801-15	Philippines (PhilCom) ▲	102-611	Uruguay	000417
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THE AMERICAS

Amid Political Flak, Judge in Drug Case Reverses Field

By John M. Goshko and Nancy Reckler
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — A federal judge, whose suppression of evidence in a major narcotics case provoked a firestorm of criticism running all the way to the White House, has reversed himself and ruled that the impounded drugs could be used to prosecute an alleged drug courier.

In making the new ruling on Monday, Judge Harold Baer Jr. of the U.S. District Court in New York said that after a more detailed hearing he found that the testimony of the police, which he previously had rejected, was more credible than that of the 41-year-old Detroit woman who is the defendant in the case.

The ruling is certain to trigger new controversy about whether Judge Baer made his decision solely on legal grounds or whether he was influenced by the unrelenting condemnation directed against him by local, state and national politicians.

Judge Baer made no mention of the political pressure or the condemnations in his new ruling, but the defense attorney in the case, Ramon Pagan, said Monday, "The outside pressure, I believe, influenced him."

Law-and-order advocates held Judge Baer up as an example of how liberal judges allegedly show more interest in protecting the rights of criminals than of society. But many legal scholars and four leading members of the federal appeals court in Manhattan warned that the attacks amounted to intimidation that could hurt the independence of the judiciary and, as the four judges said, "weaken the constitutional structure of this nation."

Judge Baer threatened to become a focal point in the presidential elections when Bob Dole, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, said the judge should be impeached. President Bill Clinton named Judge Baer, a former assistant U.S. attorney, to the federal bench in 1994. After Mr. Dole's comments the White House sought to distance itself from Judge Baer because it feared that the Republicans would seek to portray the appointment as a sign that the president favors treating criminals leniently.

The controversy began last year when police seized 36 kilograms of cocaine and heroin from a car driven by Carol Bayless, in the Washington Heights area of Manhattan. The police acted after seeing four men drop two duffel bags into the trunk of her car at 5 A.M. When the police approached, the men ran away.

At a January hearing about the admissibility of the drugs, Judge Baer ruled that the police did not have "probable cause" to pull Ms. Bayless over and search the vehicle. The judge, who once served on a commission investigating police brutality in the poor Washington Heights neighborhood, said that fleeing the police there was not necessarily suspicious behavior because area residents view the police as "corrupt, abusive and violent." He ruled as inadmissible the seized narcotics and a videotaped confession Ms. Bayless made to police.

The ruling drew furious rebukes from political leaders, including Mayor Rudolph W. Guiliani, who was once Judge Baer's boss in the U.S. attorney's office in New York City. As the criticism mounted, Judge Baer agreed to hold a new hearing on whether the evidence should be suppressed.

But, in the meantime, the critics came to include Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia and the House speaker, and Mr. Dole, who called for Judge Baer's impeachment while campaigning in California. "We don't need judges who try to find excuses for more criminal behavior," Mr. Dole said.

Other voices called for restraint, citing the need for judicial independence. The New York Law Journal titled an editorial: "It's time to end open season on judges." Mary Jo White, the U.S. attorney in New York whose office is prosecuting Ms. Bayless, wrote to Judge Baer deploring "the inappropriate rhetoric."



Wilfredo Lee/The Associated Press

WHITE HOUSE VIGIL — Protesters urging signature of a bill that outlaws a late-term abortion procedure.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Russian Imperial Style Comes to Mississippi

More than 600 priceless treasures of the imperial palaces of St. Petersburg have gone on display in Jackson, Mississippi, including golden thrones, a jewel-studded Bible, and the exquisite five-inch Fabergé Gatchina egg.

The six-month exhibit, "Palaces of St. Petersburg: Russian Imperial Style," is housed at the Mississippi Arts Pavilion in exact replicas of the palace quarters the treasures once graced in St. Petersburg.

The exhibit originated in a 1993 visit to Mississippi by a Russian choir. It was then that Pat Fordice, wife of Governor Kirk Fordice, learned of Russia's need for medical supplies and services. So Mrs. Fordice and a pharmacist, William L. Stevens, formed the nonprofit organization Mississippians Reaching Out, which donated over $20 million in medical equipment and supplies to a St. Petersburg hospital.

In gratitude, the people of St. Petersburg offered to lend the treasures to Mississippi. Jack Kyle, executive director of the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange Inc., said the $8.6 million cost of the exhibit makes it the most extensive cultural endeavor in the state's history.

He said that it would require ticket sales of 430,000 just to break even, but that the exhibit already had sold 150,000 before the doors officially opened last month.

Short Takes

The novelist Larry McMurtry owns a bookstore in his hometown of Archer City, Texas, population 1,800, which he fictionalized as Thalia in "The Last Picture Show." Around the corner from the crumbling remains of the little movie theater is Booked Up, specializing in rare and used books, first editions and out-of-print publications. In eight years, stock has soared to 300,000 volumes in three jampacked locations downtown. Being out of the way is no great handicap in the rare book trade, where much of the work is done by mail, telephone and word of mouth. "Book lovers will go wherever there are books," said the author, who is 59.

After a harsh winter, sunshine and mild temperatures have returned to Washington and so have the Japanese cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin near the Jefferson Memorial. The National Park Service says the blossoms should be at their peak this week.

Thomas Downs, the president of Amtrak, predicts that high-speed passenger trains, as an alternative to congested car and air travel, will make a profit of $150 million a year along the northeast Boston-New York-Washington corridor. Trains that will hit speeds up to 150 mph to begin service by 1999. He cited Florida, Los Angeles-San Diego, Portland-Seattle-Vancouver and Chicago as potential high-speed rail areas. "I relish the opportunity to sell what I think is part of America's transportation future." Mr. Downs told the National Press Club. "Too often people see us as an investment in nostalgia."

About People

The rock musician **Phil Spector**, in a display of self-confidence, told Entertainment Weekly, "You don't tell Shakespeare what plays to write, or how to write them. You don't tell Mozart what operas to write or how to write them. And you certainly don't tell Phil Spector what songs to write or how to write them, or what records to produce, or how to produce them."

Gil Cates, who directed **George Burns**'s 1980 film, "Oh God! Book II," recalls in the Los Angeles Times: "Doing a scene with **Howard Duff**, George stopped, asked if I minded, and then gave Howard a little directorial note. Howard and I looked at each other, both sure that the tiny note was valueless. Months later, when the picture came out, I went to the Bruin in Westwood to see it and lo and behold, that little timing note resulted in the biggest laugh in the film."

International Herald Tribune

Knight-Ridder Settles A Costly Suit for Libel

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Having lost every appeal short of the Supreme Court, the Knight-Ridder company has settled one of the biggest and most closely watched libel suits ever brought against a newspaper, one involving a $24 million award to a former prosecutor over a story printed in the Philadelphia Inquirer in 1973.

As is usual in these cases, the amount of the settlement was secret. But Richard A. Sprague, who sued the Inquirer after it reported that he had helped quash the murder prosecution of a friend's son, said in a joint statement with the publishing company that he was satisfied.

As the suit made its way through the courts over the years, Knight-Ridder officials warned against the chilling effect on newspapers' search for the news if a judgment of that size were allowed to stand, and officials at the newspaper vowed to take their appeals to the Supreme Court if necessary.

But with the April 9 deadline for filing a last-ditch appeal to the highest court approaching, the corporation evidently decided to settle rather than risk losing a final round. Knight-Ridder, which owns 27 dailies and had sales of $2 billion last year, said the settlement would have no impact on earnings.

Away From Politics

• **The Los Angeles County district attorney's office** is looking into whether an anonymous letter that resulted in the dismissal of a juror in the O. J. Simpson case was fabricated. The juror, Francine Florio-Bunten, was dismissed last May. The letter asserted that she was planning to write a book about the case. Ms. Florio-Bunten has denied that she ever considered writing a book. *(NYT)*

• **Minutes after a pipe bomb exploded outside** a newspaper office in Spokane, Washington, two men in military-style fatigues and ski masks robbed a nearby bank. *(AP)*

POLITICAL NOTES

More Minimum Wage Charges

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Democratic Party has criticized the Senate majority leader, Bob Dole, for blocking a vote on increasing the minimum wage, asserting that Senator Dole has "supported more than 35 increases in his own salary and perks," since 1961, "while the value of the minimum wage had declined to its lowest value in 40 years."

The party chairman, Don Fowler, issued calculations showing that Mr. Dole's salary has gone up in value by 37.5 percent after adjustment for inflation, while the minimum wage has fallen in value by 23.3 percent. Clarkson Hine, a Dole spokesman, countered that the Democrats were playing "maximum politics."

Mr. Fowler's comments were part of a Democratic drumbeat on the minimum wage issue. Democratic senators have been trying, unsuccessfully, to force a vote on an initiative by President Bill Clinton to raise the base level of pay to $5.15 an hour, from $4.25. *(WP)*

Dole's Got Plenty of Nothing

BAL HARBOUR, Florida — "I gotta go up there and eat a sandwich," Mr. Dole said, gesturing to the condominium 12 floors above. He was talking to an old friend sunning in a lounge chair, explaining why he was abandoning the pool deck at the beautiful height of the day.

He paused another moment, standing on the walkway leading to the bathers' elevator of the 49-year-old Sea View Hotel, then finished the thought. "Bacon, lettuce and tomato," Mr. Dole said.

The senator from Kansas and all-but-nominated Republican candidate for president is on vacation. It is an 11-day vacation at his favorite getaway, the condominium his wife, Elizabeth, bought in this 220-room condo-hotel complex in 1982.

On his vacation, Mr. Dole has done, by all appearances, nothing, or as close to nothing as possible.

"What did I do today?" he said, leaving a Miami Beach restaurant with Mrs. Dole at his side. "Read a book on Washington. Took a nap. Went out in the sun. And came here tonight.

"Can't beat that." *(NYT)*

Whitewater Trial Hears Felon

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — David Hale, a onetime Arkansas political insider who has spent the last two years in hiding, has taken the witness stand in federal court and begun describing a financial fraud scheme whose players include Mr. Clinton's former business partners, his successor as governor of Arkansas — and, Mr. Hale insists, Mr. Clinton himself.

Mr. Hale, a confessed felon, is the only witness to have claimed firsthand knowledge of criminal activity by Mr. Clinton and this was the first time he had testified in public.

He told the jury that a conspiracy to milk federal lending institutions for some $3 million was hatched at the kitchen table of Jim Guy Tucker, now governor of Arkansas, in the fall of 1985. *(WP)*

Quote/Unquote

Senator Christopher J. Dodd, on Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato's persistence in the Whitewater investigation: "He just can't believe a person in a position of power could actually lose money on a deal." *(AP)*

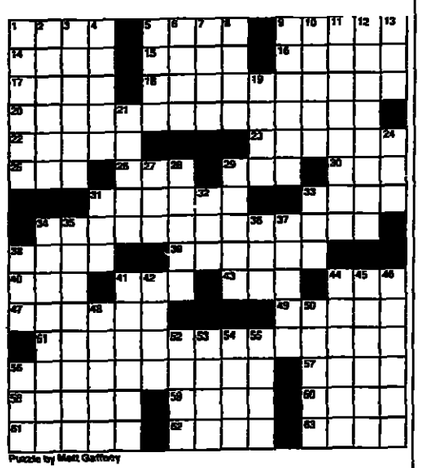
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Horace volume
5 "Cabaret" name
9 Door fasteners
14 Volcanic flow
15 Give — for one's money
16 West African capital
17 Film director Reitman
18 Washington medical center
20 Traitor to Norway
22 Best
23 Nitpicker
25 Source of a biblical jawbone
26 Involuntary muscle spasm
29 Unspecified number
30 Bleachers cry
31 Vermont-born President
33 Penalty
34 Traitor to Christ
38 Hearty laughs
39 Shakespeare hero
40 Aussie bird
41 Alphabet sequence
43 Bomb of a bomb
44 Dupin creator
47 Do technical film work
49 City known for rubber products
51 Traitor to the United States
56 Disasters
57 Enterprise competitor
58 "Maria —" (1941 song)
59 O.K. Corral fighter
60 Say no to
61 Actor Merlin
62 Pops' mates
63 Place of temptation

DOWN

1 Singer Newton-John
2 Wales's St. Cathedral
3 Gets around
4 Decaf brand
5 White House area
6 Invader of 1990
7 African language
8 Con
9 Motorcycle maker
10 Bitter
11 Hypothetical chain of events
12 Expecting
13 Pathetic
19 Cable staple
21 Extreme
24 More and merrier preceder
27 Not his or hers
28 You may get a peep out of this
29 Like a pendulum's path
31 Paid spots
32 — Today
33 Cone bearer
34 Basketball showdown
35 Kahoolawe instruments
36 Tempe sch.
37 Traffic tracker
38 Oui or si
41 He cometh
42 "Star Wars" knight
44 Showed
45 Sea rock
48 Finishes with
48 Ridiculous
50 Scamp
52 Agenda part
53 "Bye"
54 Time for a President or a convict
55 Mean snakes
56 Corp. honcho



Puzzle by Matt Gaffney

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

Solution to Puzzle of April 2

B	A	S	A	L		S	H	E	S		S	E	G	O
O	L	L	I	E		P	E	L	E		H	A	L	L
C	O	O	R	S	F	I	E	L	D		E	R	I	E
A	T	T		T	O	L	D		A	M	A	N	D	A
		C	E	L	L		S	T	A	S	S	E	N	
R	E	W	A	R	D		S	W	E	E	T			
A	D	I	M		E	C	C	E		S	A	L	A	D
M	I	N	D		R	H	O	D	A		D	O	N	E
S	E	D	E	R		E	L	E	C		I	O	T	A
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P	L	A	Y	L	E	T		A	D	A	M			
H	E	R	A	L	D		A	S	I	N		C	B	S
A	V	E	R		F	E	N	W	A	Y	P	A	R	K
S	E	N	D		I	O	N	A		O	L	D	I	E
E	R	A	S		N	E	O	N		N	O	S	E	D

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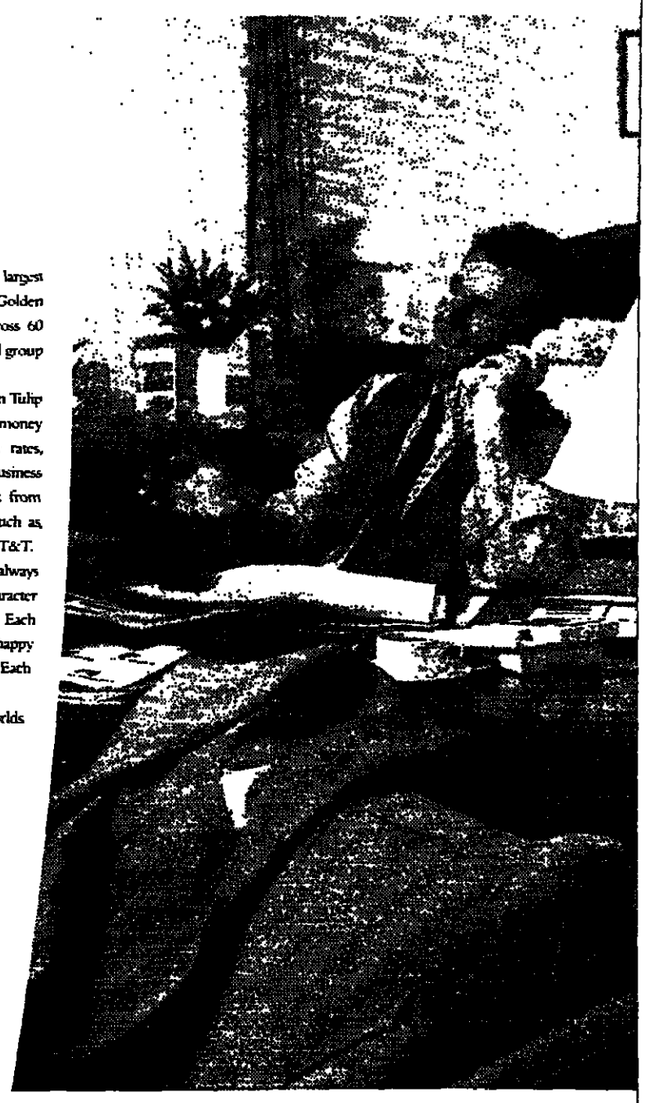
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AT&T

ASIA/PACIFIC

U.S. Gets Inside China's Nuclear Dealing With Pakistan

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence operatives secretly rifled the luggage of Pakistan's chief nuclear weapons designer, Abdul Qadeer Khan, during an overseas trip in the early 1980s to find the first concrete evidence of Chinese collaboration with Pakistan's bomb effort: a drawing of a crude, but highly reliable, Hiroshima-sized weapon that must have come directly from Beijing, according to U.S. officials.

In 1987, when Washington had learned more about the collaboration and wanted to confront Islamabad, American bomb designers at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California put together a small model of the Chinese-designed weapon.

Senior U.S. officials then showed it to Pakistan's foreign minister at a meeting in the State Department, but he denied any knowledge of Chinese assistance and claimed no such bomb program existed.

Today, Washington faces almost the same proliferation problem it did a decade ago. The U.S. intelligence community has obtained new evidence that a government-owned Chinese company helped Pakistan's nuclear weapons program last year by selling it specialized magnets for use in equipment that enriches uranium for nuclear weapons. Pakistan has again denied receiving any aid, and China has reiterated its claim that any such transaction was solely for "peaceful purposes."

The historical context for China's magnet sale is relevant to a pending U.S. decision on sanctions.

But current and former U.S. officials reject the denials, noting the long and largely secret history of the extensive Chinese-Pakistani nuclear weapons collaboration. In addition to handing over the blueprints for a bomb, they said, China has sent a continuous stream of nuclear engineers and other technical experts to Pakistan to work on its weapons program and even now is helping Pakistan build a nuclear reactor suited for making plutonium for use in more powerful and compact nuclear weapons.

The historical context for China's magnet sale is relevant to a pending administration decision on U.S. sanctions against China for two reasons, the officials said. First, even though some U.S. officials have argued that Chinese policymakers did not know of the sale before it occurred and should not be held accountable, others contend it fell squarely within a program of weapons cooperation blessed at the highest policymaking levels and that Beijing therefore must be held responsible.

Second, the transfer of the magnets, which officials said occurred in three shipments between December 1994 and mid-1995, is far from the most serious incident of Chinese nuclear proliferation to Pakistan. Officials cited that fact in explaining why the administration has all but ruled out a large-scale cutoff of Export-Import Bank financing for U.S. business deals in China, as authorized under a U.S. nonproliferation law, and is instead moving toward a more limited cutoff of financing for business deals with the specific firm that sold the magnets.

That firm, the Chinese National Nuclear Corp., and its predecessor organization, the Second Ministry of Machine Building, have long been at the heart of China's own nuclear weapons effort as well as Beijing's nuclear weapons cooperation with Islamabad, U.S. officials said. According to a Defense Intelligence Agency report last summer, the corporation has six subsidiaries that develop and sell nuclear technology, materials and instrumentation, and it is also developing civilian nuclear reactors, including a reactor at Chasma, in Pakistan.

The DIA report depicts the company as being under the "direct control" of the State Council, which is chaired by Prime Minister Li Peng and constitutes the nation's top policymaking group. Several officials said that connection helps explain why the CIA director, John M. Deutch, told other senior U.S. officials during a White House meeting last week that the magnet sale was probably approved by officials at some level in the Chinese government.

Mr. Deutch's view was supported by Defense Secretary William J. Perry, several officials said. But other senior U.S. officials, notably those from the Commerce and Treasury departments and the office of the U.S. Trade Representative, argued last week that the Chinese government need not be held legally accountable for the sale because no hard evidence existed to support this view.

Chinese leaders have in any event refused to promise Washington that they will bar future sales of nuclear-related equipment to Pakistan.

■ Chinese Deny Sales to Pakistan

China on Tuesday again denied U.S. charges that it had sold equipment for making nuclear weapons to Pakistan and stressed that Beijing was more concerned about nuclear proliferation in Asia than the United States, Reuters reported from Beijing.

Officers' Trial Raises Doubts About a Coup In Pakistan

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

ATTOCK, Pakistan — When the rulers of India built a fort beside the Indus River here more than 400 years ago, they placed it astride the route that generations of invaders used when they swept down on the Indian plains.

Now the fort and the military garrison it houses are again guarding the safety of the established order, as the site of courts-martial against Pakistan Army officers accused of a plot to overthrow the government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

The government's handling of the affair has mystified many Pakistanis since September, when about 40 officers and civilians were arrested. Because the courts-martial have been closed to the public and the news media, there has been little to dispel the swirl of rumor and the skepticism about the government's version of the affair.

The doubts have been compounded by the government's own ambiguity. In the weeks after the arrests, Miss Bhutto and the defense minister, Aftab Shahban Mirani, suggested that it had been Pakistan's closest brush with a military coup since 1977. In that year the government of Miss Bhutto's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was overthrown and martial law was ordered under General Mohammed Zia ul-Haq. Martial law lasted until General Zia died in an air crash in 1988.

But from what little is known, many Pakistanis have been surprised by how gently the government has handled the affair. According to newspaper reports, only four of the officers actually have been put on trial; the others got dishonorable discharges. Apparently no civilians have been charged.

In the weeks after the arrests, Miss Bhutto and other senior officials emphasized the seriousness of the threat. They said the men arrested — a major general, a brigadier, three colonels, half a dozen other officers and about 20 or 30 civilians — had planned to install a Muslim fundamentalist government. Many weapons were reportedly seized.

According to Miss Bhutto and Mr. Mirani, the plotters planned to storm an army commanders' meeting in Rawalpindi, kill the generals and install the plotters' leader, Major General Zahir ul-Islam Abbasi, as ruler. The government also said the plotters planned to kill Miss Bhutto and President Farooq Leghari.

The government version emphasized the officers' links with the shadowy Muslim fundamentalists that Miss Bhutto has often said are the greatest threat to democracy.

"They disguised their personal ambition in the garb of religion," Mr. Mirani said. "They intended to impose a self-styled *sharia*," he said, referring to a body of traditional Muslim law, "and the general officer was to become chief of the army staff and *amirul mumineen*," an Arabic phrase meaning commander of the faithful, which was taken as a title by General Zia.

The government's version came as a shock to Pakistan, which has had eight continuous years of civilian governments with few signs that the army would seek to seize power again. The government, by leaving key policy decisions to a troika of the prime minister, the president and the army commander, has appeared keen to placate the armed forces.

Asked to explain why the courts-martial have been so low-key, senior officials have said Miss Bhutto must take care not to provoke fundamentalists, some of whom have links to a terrorist underground. Many Pakistanis agree that the government has to be wary, but note that it is also a convenient rationale for Miss Bhutto, who has based her appeal for Western support partly on her assertion that she is the best defense against Muslim fundamentalism.

Western diplomats with contacts in the armed forces say the accusations of a plot could be a harbinger of more serious problems for democracy in Pakistan. According to these accounts, many officers were affected by the "Islamization" that General Zia promoted.

As to whether there was a plot, fundamentalist groups have remained enigmatic, as though they too may see some benefit in making Pakistanis believe that they are powerful enough to threaten the government.

Live-Fire Drill in Strait Is Postponed by Taiwan

By Patrick E. Tyler
New York Times Service

BEIJING — Under pressure from Washington and from domestic critics, Taiwan said Tuesday that it would postpone for at least three months a live-fire military exercise on Matsu Island, the heavily fortified Taiwanese base that lies less than two miles off mainland China.

"To avoid any misunderstanding and to ease tensions across the Taiwan Strait and in this region, the Defense Ministry announced that this training drill will be suspended until June 30, 1996," a statement issued in Taipei by defense officials said.

Before the announcement was made, Beijing cautioned Taiwan's leaders against igniting military tensions.

"We have noted that the Taiwan authorities have repeatedly indicated their hope for the relaxation of cross-strait relations," Shen Guofang, spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. "Therefore it is our hope that the Taiwan authorities will take some concrete actions toward that end."

The postponement was announced after Prime Minister Lien Chan conferred with President Lee Teng-hui, who was said to have approved the deferral. Members of the Taiwan Parliament voiced strong disapproval of any exercises.

Taiwan is preparing for the arrival of a significant volume of U.S. weapons this summer and is still enjoying the security boost provided by President Bill Clinton's deployment of two aircraft carrier battle groups to the western Pacific last month. One of those carriers has since returned to port in Japan.

"We have decided to postpone the training to clear any doubts and also to contribute to cross-strait and regional security," Mr. Lien said, according to Taiwan's official radio.

The drills, which would reportedly have included artillery fire into the waters adjoining Matsu and surface-to-air missile firings, had not been announced publicly. But news of the preparations were published in a Taiwanese newspaper over the weekend.

In the past, such drills have occasionally led to the accidental shelling of fishing villages on the Chinese coast. In November 1994, Taiwan gunners on the island of Little Quemoy mistakenly fired at least 15 artillery rounds into the village of Tatou near the mainland port of Xiamen, wounding four people and prompting Beijing to denounce the shelling as a "vicious" and "evil" act.

On Monday, the U.S. State Department admonished Taipei not to hold drills at a time when military tensions in the region have begun to slacken following the March 23 presidential election on Taiwan.

"In recent weeks, we've called on both the People's Republic of China and on Taiwan to take steps to reduce tensions in the Taiwan Strait and to resume the cross-strait dialogue that they had been engaged in, but that was interrupted last June," a State Department spokesman, Glyn Davies, said. "So in our view, exercises near Matsu now would not be conducive to the reduction of tensions."

China mounted three sets of threatening military exercises in the weeks before the election in hopes of diminishing support for President Lee. But voters instead gave the Taiwanese leader a strong mandate to negotiate with China over the island's political status.

Taiwan was occupied by Japan in the first half of the century and became the exile home of the Nationalist government after the communists swept to power on the mainland in 1949.

Beijing Set To Try 18 on Corruption

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING — A court here announced proceedings Tuesday against 18 people in China's biggest corruption scandal under communism, which has already caused the downfall of one of the government's most powerful figures.

The Beijing Supreme People's Court president, Sheng Liangang, was quoted by the Xinhua press agency as saying a court was ready to try the case of Wang Baosen, in which 183 billion yuan ($2.2 billion) disappeared from municipal coffers.

Mr. Wang was a Beijing deputy mayor who committed suicide last April while under investigation for his role in the scandal.

He Fangba, the prosecutor, said that 18 people had been charged and that seven others were suspected of involvement, Xinhua reported, but he did not say whether the capital's deposed Communist Party chief, Chen Xitong, was among the accused.

No date was announced for the trial.

The spokesman for the current session of the Beijing People's Congress, Long Xinmin, told reporters that all those implicated in the case "will be tried according to the law by the judicial departments."

"There will definitely be a result this year," he said.

Investigations into the affairs of Mr. Wang and Mr. Chen, who resigned a few weeks after Mr. Wang's suicide, revealed a city government riddled with corruption.

The Beijing Daily became Tuesday the first mainland newspaper to reveal the extent of the scandal, after the disclosure of the sum involved by Mr. Wang's successor, Jin Renqing, at the Beijing congress session on Sunday. Officials had previously said just $37 million had disappeared.

BRIEFLY ASIA

Radicals Attack Police in Seoul

SEOUL — South Korean radicals bombarded riot police with firebombs Tuesday in the year's most violent anti-government protest, demanding the resignation of President Kim Young Sam over the death of a student activist.

About 1,000 students threw hundreds of firebombs at the police after marching off Seoul National University campus shouting, "Down with the murderous Kim Young Sam regime!" The police responded with barrages of tear gas. No serious injuries were reported.

Earlier, dissidents called for anti-government rallies nationwide on Wednesday. Riot police avoided clashes with 500 protesters on two other Seoul campuses, who urged Mr. Kim to apologize for the death of Noh Su Suk, 20, a student at Yonsei University. He was found dead Friday after being chased by club-wielding police. An autopsy report said he might have died of natural causes. But fellow students and dissidents contend police brutality was to blame. *(AFP)*

TV Admits Deal With Aum Cult

TOKYO — Tokyo Broadcasting System Inc. admitted Tuesday that it had made a secret deal with Aum Shinrikyo over a videotape widely believed to have led to the murder of a lawyer campaigning against the doomsday cult.

"We have eroded trust not only in TBS but the broadcasting industry at large," the television station's president, Hirozo Isozaki, told an parliamentary committee. "I consider the issue as an extremely serious matter."

The panel summoned Mr. Isozaki and two other executives Tuesday after the station admitted showing an interview with a lawyer, Tsutsumi Sakamoto, to members of the cult in 1989, shortly before it was to be broadcast. In the tape, Mr. Sakamoto accused the cult of illegal practices. He, his wife and their son, were murdered a week later.

The managing director of the station, Atsuo Suzuki, said that a reporter had "promised to show the video to Aum followers beforehand and asked them to keep the matter secret." Prosecutors have charged that the cult leader, Shoko Asahara, ordered his followers to kill Mr. Sakamoto after learning about the contents of the interview. *(AFP)*

Total Blackout Hits Sri Lanka

COLOMBO — Sri Lanka suffered a total electricity failure Tuesday night, a spokesman for the Ceylon Electricity Board said.

"It is a total power failure," the spokesman said. "We still don't know what caused it but we are trying to restore supply area by area and it will be some time before the system is back up again."

Heavy thundershowers hit Colombo and its suburbs before the blackout. Sri Lanka had been experiencing a severe drought that emptied hydroelectric reservoirs, and power had been rationed since March 22. *(AFP)*

Japan to Ship Last of Korea Rice

TOKYO — The government said Tuesday it would finish rice shipments to North Korea by the end of this week and had no immediate plans to give further food assistance.

Japan agreed last year to send about 500,000 tons of rice to North Korea.

"A North Korean vessel will depart from a local port this week, carrying the last part of the rice," a Japanese government official said.



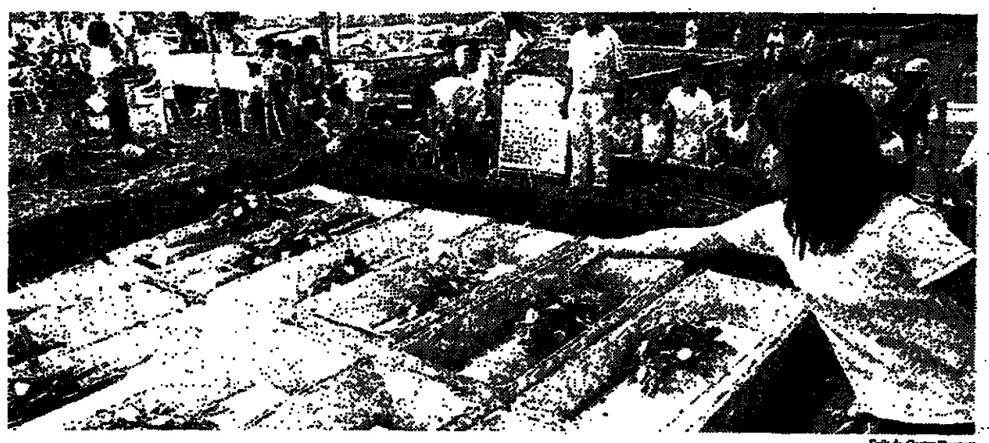
Kim Jae Hwan/Agence France-Presse

Seoul radicals hurling firebombs at police Tuesday to protest the death of a demonstrator last Friday.

VOICES From Asia

Wei Shanshan, the sister of Wei Jingsheng, the imprisoned Chinese dissident, giving her backing in Geneva to a UN draft resolution censuring China for its human rights record, which European Union ministers have agreed to sign: "Last weekend in Turin they decided that they'd back the resolution on China, which means that the resolution has defeated the lure of money. We hope that all member states will be supporting this resolution. *(Reuters)*

Qian Qichen, the Chinese foreign minister, wrapping up an official visit to Tokyo with a parting word of warning for Taiwan: "Our main concern on the issue of Taiwan is that we would object to any move by them to break free from the motherland." *(Reuters)*



Erik de Castro/Reuters

DISCO FIRE VICTIMS LAID TO REST — A woman in Manila throwing a flower into the grave of 18 unidentified victims of a March 19 disco fire. Her huband was one of at least 157 people killed in the blaze.

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Edgy, Rao Doubles Up for India Race

Reuters

KURNOOL, India — Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao filed to run for a seat in Parliament from two constituencies Tuesday in what some Congress Party officials saw as a decision effectively to take out an electoral insurance policy.

He filed for re-election from Nandyal in his home state of Andhra Pradesh in southern India, where he won convincingly in 1991, polling officials here said.

But, surprising some officials, he also filed from Berhampur in the eastern state of Orissa in what several party officials said was a bid to improve his chances of keeping a seat in the lower house.

"This indicates he is on slippery ground in Nandyal," the state president of the Bharatiya Janata Party, V. Rama Rao, said.

Harpreet Singh, joint collector and returning officer, said that two sets of nomination papers had been filed by supporters on Mr. Rao's behalf in Kurnool.

Politicians in Kurnool said Mr. Rao had planned to be present.

But they added that he had been forced to cancel his trip because of a backlash in his Congress Party over a decision to create an alliance with the governing regional party in Tamil Nadu state, they said.

This area, Nandyal, returned Mr. Rao with a huge margin in a by-election in late 1991.

He did not contest the general elections in June that year, and had to win a lower house seat within six months of his being chosen prime minister by the Congress Party.

In a gesture intended to honor Andhra Pradesh, the opposition Telugu Desam party did not field a candidate from Nandyal in the 1991 by-election.

But this time Mr. Rao faces tough opposition from the party, which has split into two groups.

Mr. Rama Rao said the prime minister appeared concerned that state party leaders would not back him.

"He feels any time they may ditch him," Mr. Rama Rao said.

In another development, two former ministers charged in a corruption scandal will run as independents after the ruling Congress Party denied them general election tickets, associates said Tuesday.

Prime Minister Rao's party said on Monday it would deny tickets to seven former ministers charged in the $18 million *hawala*, or black money, scandal.

Two of the ex-ministers, Kamal Nath and Madhavrao Scindia, told television they would consult aides in their constituencies on Wednesday, the last date for filing nominations for elections to 543 seats in the lower house, the Lok Sabha.

"They have said that they would decide after consulting their workers in their constituencies, but it is only a formality," one associate said.

EUROPE

Italian Leftist Keeps a Low Political Profile

By Daniel Williams
Washington Post Service

FOGGIA, Italy — It was a meeting right out of the scrapbook of traditional leftist politics, the red-flag waving, dignity-of-labor kind.

Massimo D'Alema, 47, the leader of Italy's largest leftist party, exhorted workers at a paper factory here to get out the vote. "We can't let this historic moment pass," he said, "a moment in which workers will take power. We can't lose this moment."

Sound like a man running for prime minister? Guess again. Although Mr. D'Alema heads the biggest single political party in Italy, although the taboos against former Communists in government died with the end of the Cold War, although he is by all accounts an able and much-admired leader, Mr. D'Alema is running only for a seat in Parliament.

If after the national elections set for April 21, Italy's leftists enter government for the first time in the country's history, they will not be with the head of the country's main leftist party in the lead. For reasons ranging from fear of a lingering anti-communism to pure calculation, Mr. D'Alema is staying in the background.

The situation is an anomaly in a political landscape full of oddities. But it is also a very Italian way of doing politics. In Italy, the real measure of power is the ability to run things from behind the scenes. This is a country where bankers have sometimes outranked kings, cardinals topped popes, party secretaries bossed prime ministers. Mr. D'Alema is living an old Italian tradition.

He heads the Democratic Party of the Left, the heir to the Italian Communist Party, which was long Western Europe's largest Communist grouping. In 1990, after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the party dropped its Marxist slogans and anti-capitalist stands in favor of moderation.

The party is by far the major branch of the Olive Tree Coalition, the center-left alliance that is fighting a close campaign against a rightist coalition headed by the television magnate Silvio Berlusconi. Without the ex-Communists, the Olive Tree is but a bush.

In other countries, such a coalition would probably have made Mr. D'Alema its candidate for prime minister. But not in Italy, not now. The Olive Tree candidate is Romano Prodi, an affable economics professor and former bureaucrat who has never held elective office. "We have had to consider how to construct a winning coalition, how to be competitive. That means I have taken a lesser role," Mr. D'Alema said in an interview.

It is a transitional choice for a transitional time. On a continent where clear left-right choices are as common as Renaissance cathedrals, Italy remains a muddle.

After World War II, Christian Democrats dominated a broad middle of Italian politics and excluded the far right and the Communists from power for more than four decades. The system fed on ever-expanding patronage and, it turned out, heavy doses of graft. In 1992, Christian Democracy collapsed and a new, clean and stable era of true left-right politics was supposed to begin.

But a complex electoral system, a penchant for supporting small parties and the historical fears of the far right and left combined to keep politics in confusion. Four governments have taken power in four years. All sides of the equation are trying to find a durable formula for winning elections and staying in power.

For the party, that has meant seeking out centrist voters, and Mr. Prodi is the lure. Cool and tactical, Mr. D'Alema sees self-denial as the shortest route to power.

Make no mistake. Mr. D'Alema is No. 1 in the Olive Tree and flexes his muscles when he feels like it — sometimes leading to embarrassing moments for Mr. Prodi and other members of the coalition. Last January, Mr. D'Alema brushed aside Mr. Prodi's objections and tried unsuccessfully to reach agreement with Mr. Berlusconi to form a national unity government.

In 1994, the Democratic Left Party, then led by Achille Occhetto, lost to Mr. Berlusconi and his Freedom Alliance. The Communists were shocked by defeat at the hands of a newcomer. Mr. D'Alema quickly made his bid for leadership. He won by calling in apparatchiks like himself to turn back a challenge from reformers who thought the party ought to integrate fully into the Olive Tree alliance.

Here in Foggia, a sleepy city in the middle of a broad plain, supporters still call Mr. D'Alema "comrade" and still talk about the *padroni*, the owners, as the enemy.

Mr. D'Alema's message, however, is moderate. No quotes from Marx; at the paper mill, Mr. D'Alema referred to comments made by Pope John Paul II about workers' rights and the dangers of unbridled capitalism.

He distinguishes the Olive Tree from the Freedom Alliance in several areas. Mr. D'Alema says the center-left coalition opposes the right's attempts to curtail the wide-ranging corruption investigations that are now in their fourth year.

"Italy is a conservative country," he said. "Anti-communism was the dominant ideology for four decades. It is not easy to overcome."

He claims to harbor no frustrations for having to hold himself in reserve. The long years of exclusion from power seem to have immunized him from overt ambition, although followers talk about making him president of Italy, the tirular head of state, within a decade.

"We are patient," Mr. D'Alema said. Our patience comes from long experience, from our history of being excluded from power. I can wait."

'Most-Trusted Man' Won't Run

Reuters

ROME — Antonio Di Pietro, a former magistrate who was cleared Friday of allegations of abuse of office and extortion in a third and final investigation into his conduct, dashed the hopes of the center-right and center-left alike on Tuesday by saying he would stay out of the April 21 general election.

Both sides had sought backing from the respected former magistrate. Given his status in opinion polls as Italy's most trusted man, endorsement by Mr. Di Pietro had been seen as highly useful for politicians wooing the public in the third general election in four years.

"I state again — and I hope once and for all — that I shall not participate in any way whatsoever in the present political campaign in Italy," Mr. Di Pietro said in a column for the magazine Oggi. His remarks were released ahead of publication.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

Foes Seek Ciller's Ouster

ANKARA — Dissidents in the center-right True Path Party on Tuesday called for a party meeting this month during which they hope to oust former Prime Minister Tansu Ciller from leadership.

"Our objective is to rehabilitate democracy in our party that has been hurt by arbitrary actions of its current leader," a spokesman, Refaiddin Sahin, a deputy from Ordu, said.

Representatives of the opponents submitted a list of 251 party delegates to Ankara's local election council, urging that a party congress be called.

The opponents are led by a former parliamentary speaker, Husamettin Cindoruk, who was expelled from True Path by Mrs. Ciller, with several of his supporters, weeks before general elections on Dec. 24. *(AFP)*

French Eyes on NATO

PARIS — Two months away from a key meeting to determine NATO's future, France on Tuesday gave its strongest indications yet that it wants to fully rejoin a renovated Atlantic alliance.

In a major policy speech, Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette said NATO with a strong U.S. role will remain Europe's main defense and that France intends to increase its participation.

"France is not trying to sneak back into the integrated structures," Mr. de Charette said, but "is willing to take its place in the renovation of the alliance. Its participation in the new structures is an open question." *(AP)*

U.S. Arms for Albania

TIRANA, Albania — Defense Secretary William J. Perry, pledged military assistance to Albania on Tuesday but said the United States had no plans to set up bases there.

Mr. Perry, on his second official visit to Albania, said Washington would make available more than $100 million for military training, equipping peacekeeping units and joint exercises. *(Reuters)*

Spain Chiefs Meet King

MADRID — Almost a month after general elections, King Juan Carlos began a series of meetings with party leaders Tuesday for discussions on whom he should pick to form Spain's next government.

First to meet the monarch was José Maria Chiquillo of Valencia Union, a regional coalition. Like most other leaders, Mr. Chiquillo was expected to recommend that José Maria Aznar, whose center-right Popular Party won the March 3 elections but failed to win a congressional majority, be given first chance to form a cabinet.

The Popular Party won 156 seats, 20 short of an absolute majority in the 350-seat Congress, meaning it must form alliances with other parties to have Congress elect Mr. Aznar prime minister. *(AP)*

Calendar

European Union events on Wednesday:

BRUSSELS: Weekly meeting of the European Commission. Main points: report on oil supply, refining and oil markets in the EU; reports on civil protection, tourism and energy.

BRUSSELS: The European Commission president, Jacques Santer, meets with Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene and Social Services Minister Miet Smet to discuss Belgium's employment pact initiative.

PARIS: The commissioner for internal markets, Mario Monti, meets the French finance minister, Jean Arthuis.

TANZANIA: Emma Bonino, commissioner for humanitarian aid, meets the director of USAid, Brian Atwood.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP

British Rush Terrorist Bill

Law Aimed at IRA Would Expand Search Powers

Agence France-Presse

LONDON — Fearful of an imminent resurgence in Irish Republican Army violence, the British government rushed Tuesday to pass tough new anti-terrorism legislation before the Easter weekend.

The measures the government wants to enact into law by Thursday would extend existing police stop-and-search powers from Northern Ireland to mainland Britain, where the IRA resumed bombing in London on Feb. 9 after a 17-month truce.

Although there has been no mainland bombing for about six weeks, Home Secretary Michael Howard said in Parliament on Monday that the government feared the IRA would launch attacks this weekend to coincide with the 80th anniversary of the 1916 Easter uprising against British rule in Ireland.

The new powers would give officers the right to stop and search anyone — including outer clothing — regardless of whether there are grounds to think the person is carrying terrorist matériel.

Refusal to submit to a search could be punished by a six-month jail term.

Mainland police can now search a person's luggage and car, not his or her clothing.

"My responsibility is to ensure that, if these powers have the potential to save one life during the Easter recess, the police are not denied them," Mr. Howard said.

The Labor Party, which has generally backed the government on Northern Ireland policy and said it would do so this time, was faced with a split as up to 30 backbenchers threatened a revolt.

They voiced concern that the new powers would infringe personal liberties and civil rights.

Once the sweeping stop-and-search powers become law, they said, the police could use them without discretion against racial or ethnic minorities, for example.

A Labor Member of Parliament, Max Madden, said he would demand why a measure with "very serious human rights and civil liberty implications" was being rushed through.

"I hope that explanation is going to be forthcoming because if it isn't I'm sure a number of MPs, including myself, are unable to support this measure and will be voting against it," he said.

Kohl, in Austria, Gets Heightened Protection

Reuters

VIENNA — Austria tightened border controls and police protection for the visiting German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, on Tuesday after reports of death threats from the Kurdish Workers Party, which is outlawed in Germany.

The police said that Mr. Kohl, who is on vacation at the Bad Hofgastein spa near Salzburg, was under close guard by Austrian and German security officers.

Salzburg's police chief, Anton Steinitzer, said: "We are taking the threats against Kohl very seriously."

While Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel has confirmed that he received a death threat, the German government has declined to comment on reports that Mr. Kohl is also a target.

He visits Bad Hofgastein every year for a fitness vacation and his frequent walks through the Alpine town make him a high-profile guest.

The Kurdish Workers Party, known by its initials as PKK, and other militants are battling attempts to expel Kurds from Germany while also fighting for Kurdish autonomy in southeastern Turkey.

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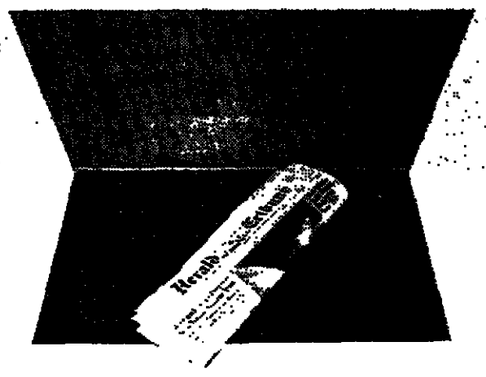
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Russians Say Chechen Truce Holds

But Clashes Continue With Rebel Troops

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

GROZNY, Russia — Russian commanders Tuesday insisted that the cease-fire ordered by President Boris N. Yeltsin was being observed despite continuing clashes between Russian troops and rebel fighters.

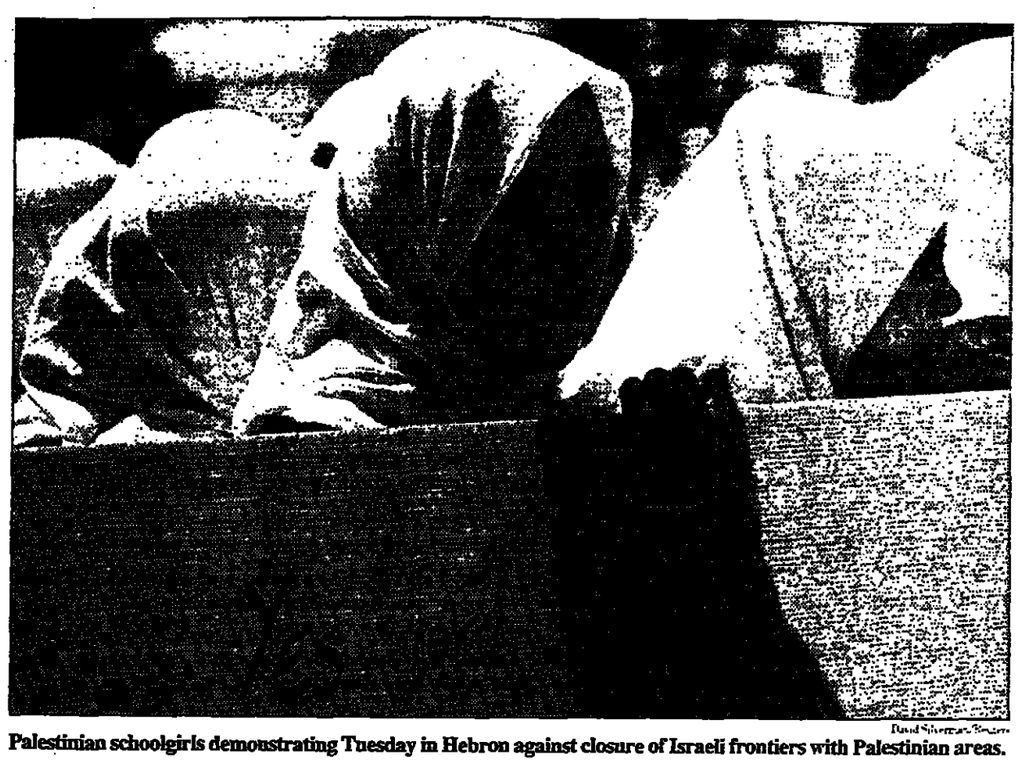
Russian forces exchanged automatic weapons fire throughout the day Tuesday with rebels in the southwestern villages Bamut, Stary Achkhoi and Orekhovo, the Interfax news agency said.

Major General Stanislav Kondratiev, the deputy Russian commander in Chechnya, said federal troops had forced separatists out of Orekhovo, but went on the defensive Tuesday morning when the rebels attempted to retake their positions in the village, Interfax said.

General Kondratiev insisted that federal forces were acting in line with Mr. Yeltsin's cease-fire decree, which said Russia reserved the right to return fire if its troops were attacked.

The halt in combat operations was ordered by Mr. Yeltsin as part of a plan to end the 16-month war in Chechnya. Mr. Yeltsin's initiative also includes a gradual troop withdrawal, elections for Chechnya's new Parliament and negotiations on its status within the Russian Federation.

But a spokesman for Dzhokar Dudayev, the rebel leader, dismissed the plan as a pre-election stunt and the head of Russian land forces in Chechnya told Itar-Tass news agency that his troops could not be withdrawn yet. Movladi Udugov, a Dudayev aide, said: "All the political steps taken by the Russian side can be no more than pre-election action with the aim of raising Yeltsin's authority and making him Russian president for a second term." *(AP, Reuters)*



Palestinian schoolgirls demonstrating Tuesday in Hebron against closure of Israeli frontiers with Palestinian areas.

Hamas Orders Attacks On Israelis to Resume

Terror Group Angered by Police Crackdown

By Joel Greenberg
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — Stung by a crackdown by Palestinian and Israeli security forces, the militant Islamic group Hamas Tuesday ordered a resumption of suicide attacks against Israel.

The call, in a leaflet signed by the armed wing of Hamas, the Qassam Brigades, reflected the climate of confrontation between the Palestinian Authority and its militant opponents that has been aggravated in recent days by violent incidents in the West Bank between Palestinians and the Authority's police.

After a wave of suicide bombings in Israel that killed 62 people, including the bombers, the Palestinian and Israeli authorities arrested hundreds of suspected Muslim militants in recent weeks and searched dozens of universities, mosques and other institutions said to be strongholds of Hamas.

The Israelis have blown up the family homes of suicide bombers, blockaded the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and closed down several colleges in the West Bank said to be centers of Hamas activity.

Calling for "a powerful and firm response" to these measures, the leaflet ordered all armed cells affiliated with Hamas, including the group that claimed responsibility for the latest bombings, to "penetrate all the fragile security barriers and resume the glorious martyrdom operations, lighting a blazing fire again in the heart of the state of the alien Zionist entity."

The statement accused the Palestinian Authority of torturing Hamas detainees and said that many were in hospitals under heavy guard.

There was no way to confirm the claims, although human rights monitors have reported that violence was used by the Palestinian police during recent arrests, and that many detainees have been denied access to lawyers.

Charging that the authority had "crossed the last red line," the leaflet said that it would inflict "the severest punishments on anyone who has made war on Hamas," and that those who had mistreated prisoners would "pay a dear price."

The statement ruled out any talks on a political accord with the authority until it halted its crackdown, freed all Hamas prisoners and brought to justice those responsible for abuses. The leaflet acknowledged that part of the Qassam Brigades network had been damaged by the recent arrests, but vowed that it would be swiftly rebuilt.

The rising tensions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip erupted in Ramallah and Nablus between Palestinians and police in the past week. In Nablus last Saturday, club-wielding Palestinian police officers sprayed tear gas and fired in the air to break up a press conference at Najah University called to protest arrests of dozens of students.

DISEASE: *Incidence Is One in a Million*

Continued from Page 1

tainty only after death by pathologists who peer through a microscope to detect the distinctive pattern of brain damage. Such tests have created the latest mystery about spongiform diseases.

An expert British committee has identified a cluster of 10 cases of a variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in people younger than 42, some in their teenage years. The committee concluded it was dealing with a variant form because of the unusual microscopic appearance of diseased neurons. The committee said that although scientific proof was lacking, it was tentatively linking the cluster to mad cow disease.

But many scientists are confused about the strength and importance of the link, and they have criticized the committee and the British government for failing to immediately disclose all the scientific details they have about the cases.

One undoubted mode of transmission is through exchange of tissues. Over the last 20 years, doctors have documented transmission of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease through injections and transplants of tissue like corneas and the dura that covers human brain.

Worldwide, at least 62 cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease have been traced to injections of growth hormone once derived from pituitary glands obtained from thousands of human cadavers. Sixteen of those cases resulted from human growth hormone distributed to more than 6,200 people in a program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. The lengthy incubation period suggests that the number may grow with time.

Additional cases have resulted from the re-use of chemically disinfected electrodes that had been implanted to record the brain wave patterns of patients with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. All transmissions in these and other surgical procedures have apparently involved contamination of human tissues from or near the brain and central nervous system.

Officials of the Food and Drug Administration and blood banks have recently expressed concern at the possibility that Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease might be transmitted through the blood supply, although there has been no documented case so far.

The concern in part reflects potential litigation and wariness over criticism of the way these organizations handled the issue of transfusions of blood contaminated with the AIDS virus in the early 1980s. Last year, an advisory panel to the drug agency recommended notification of recipients of blood that had been donated by someone before they developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

A few medical personnel who work with brain tissue have developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Although such cases raise questions about occupational hazards, experts say the number reported is within the range of what would be expected by chance alone.

Other cases of Creutzfeldt-Jacob seem to be clearly hereditary in nature. The disease is named after two German doctors, Hans G. Creutzfeldt and Alfons Jakob, who independently reported the first cases 75 years ago.

Many hereditary cases can be traced to a mutant gene on chromosome 20. In the hereditary group, each child born to an affected parent has a 50-50 chance of developing the disease.

The overwhelming majority of Creutzfeldt-Jakob cases occur sporadically and with no clue as to how they are transmitted.

A better understanding of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease has been hampered by the lack of a central registry and the reluctance of many pathologists and clinicians to handle patients with the disease, said Frank O. Bastian, a pathologist at the University of South Alabama, in Mobile.

The prevailing belief is that spongiform diseases are caused by rogue proteins known as prions that are thought to be abnormal variants of the prion proteins normally present on the surface of nerve cells. The disease-causing prions are believed to convert their normal counterpart protein into the abnormal form. Normal prion protein is produced by a gene that is widely found in nature. But its function is unknown. Prions lack the DNA and RNA that are the hereditary material of other transmissible disease agents.

The prion theory is based on the work of Stanley B. Prusiner of the University of California at San Francisco. His studies were at first regarded as heretical because they invoked a bizarre concept that infection could be caused by an agent without genetic material. Many scientists are now convinced that prions cause spongiform diseases. The problem, Dr. Prusiner said, is that "we don't know how they cause disease."

Jumping the Species Barrier

Agence France-Presse

GENEVA — The "mad cow" crisis has raised fresh concern over the ability of infectious agents to cross the species barrier from animals to humans, Hiroshi Nakajima, director of the World Health Organization, said on Tuesday.

"The possible link between BSE and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease or its variant once again raises concern about the ability of an infectious agent to cross the barrier between animal and man," Mr. Nakajima told a meeting of specialists, referring to bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

Some 15 experts from seven countries began closed-door talks here Tuesday to tackle the fatal human form of mad cow disease.

The WHO-sponsored meeting, which ends Wednesday, follows reports in Britain last month that triggered global panic over a link between bovine spongiform encephalopathy, which strikes cattle, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a fatal brain disorder in humans.

Mr. Nakajima recalled that a meeting last year concluded as a working assumption that "all mammals, including humans, should be regarded as being potentially susceptible to BSE if sufficiently exposed."

Men's Contraceptive Injection Lauded

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — A contraceptive injection for men has proved to be as effective as birth control pills for women, scientists said Tuesday after worldwide trials.

The new contraceptive was hailed as a breakthrough. Doctors are now working on a version as a pill that can be taken daily in combination with less-frequent injections.

"It is very significant," said Dr. Fred Wu of Manchester University in England, one of 15 international centers to test the contraceptive. "It is really for the first time showing the world that permanent contraception for men really works."

The World Health Organization said the new method, which secretes the male hormone testosterone into the body to reduce the sperm count to negligible levels, was as effective as the female pill in preventing pregnancy. Side effects were said to be minimal.

An American expert said the study might be a turning point in contraceptive techniques.

"It would seem a strong indication that male hormone given by injection could be an effective contraceptive, the only drawback being the painful method," said Richard Sherins of the Genetics and IVF Institute in Fairfax, Virginia.

But he warned against undue optimism, saying it could take up to eight years before a better technique of administering the drug is perfected.

"It now depends on whether the drug companies think they can produce it profitably in the long term," Mr. Wu said.

A two-and-a-half-year study of 399 couples in nine countries found that the injections were an effective contraceptive for 98.6 percent, according to the report in Fertility and Sterility, the journal of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.

There were only four pregnancies among the study couples during the test period.

The men, aged 21 to 45, were all healthy, fertile and in stable relationships. They received weekly shots in the buttocks of testosterone, which was known to inhibit the production of those pituitary signals that instruct the testes to produce sperm.

Another result of the study was the discovery of the sperm threshold necessary for contraception, according to Mr. Wu, a senior lecturer in endocrinology at Manchester University. He supervised the monitoring of 72 British couples.

The participating countries, aside from Britain and the United States, were Australia, China, Sweden, France, Hungary, Singapore and Thailand. *(Reuters, AP)*

Belarus Signs Broad Pact With Russia

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Riding a wave of nostalgia for the Soviet Union, the presidents of Russia and Belarus agreed Tuesday to link their economies and political systems, but stopped short of creating a single state.

Presidents Boris N. Yeltsin and Alexander Lukashenko gave each other bear hugs and kisses at the Kremlin ceremony where the agreement creating a new "Community of Sovereign Republics" was signed.

Mr. Yeltsin, who is seeking a second term as president in June elections, hopes the treaty will attract voters nostalgic for the Soviet Union, while Mr. Lukashenko wants Russia's help in resolving his country's economic crisis.

The union is to be governed by a council made up of the countries' presidents, prime ministers and parliamentary leaders, and would eventually have a common constitution, budget and currency.

Each country is to keep its independence.

Mr. Yeltsin said the signing was a "historic moment," and called the treaty a "document that opens a radically new stage in the history of two sovereign peoples, two sovereign states."

COLONY: *China Tries New Tack*

Continued from Page 1

endorsed plans to abolish the local Legislative Council for replacement by an appointed body of Beijing loyalists, many of whom would be drawn from within the committee's ranks.

The move, retaliation long threatened by Beijing for electoral reforms initiated by London over its bitter opposition, was then followed by Chinese calls for Hong Kong's senior civil servants to pledge their loyalty to the appointed, provisional legislature even before the 1997 handover date.

The two steps, following closely China's use of military threats against Taiwan in March, increased concerns that Beijing will interfere more directly in Hong Kong's day-to-day administration than was initially agreed upon with Britain in a 1984 treaty.

Popular local politicians likely to be excluded from Hong Kong's political process under Chinese rule have organized protest marches and other measures to voice their opposition to Beijing's plans.

But the sight of 54,000 people lining up to beat a midnight deadline for British travel documents on Sunday has had a more serious dampening effect on local sentiment.

The decision to use newspaper notices rather than commentaries in pro-Beijing newspapers published here is a definite departure from China's often opaque process of explaining its policies.

If local residents are reluctant to offer suggestions that may run counter to the committee's policies so far, however, they have good reason to be cautious.

The one member of the 150-person committee to vote against abolishing the local legislature, Frederick Fung, was largely stripped of his future committee rights by its leadership.

BEEF: *EU Stuck on British Compensation, but Will Aid Beef Industry in Member States*

Continued from Page 1

$400 million a year, but British officials said the overall cost would be at least $700 million.

The British proposal would allow animals to remain alive until they are no longer productive either as dairy cows or breeding stock, usually around the age of six years. Most British beef cattle are slaughtered before they are 30 months old — the age at which British scientists say cattle become vulnerable to the disease, known to experts as bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

The suggested link between mad cow disease and the fatal Creuzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans inspired the European Union to impose a worldwide ban on beef exports last week as prices in Britain and elsewhere on the continent plummeted.

Many consumers switched to other foods, fearing infection from what was once seen as a hallmark of wholesome eating.

European officials here said an initial compromise agreement, worked out in the early hours of Tuesday morning, would have to be redrafted Tuesday night because of demands by many European countries, particularly Germany, that Britain take more radical measures to prevent any risk of mad cow disease entering human food.

German officials said Mr. Borchert felt Britain's initial offer was too vague and that he had demanded tighter enforcement of the ban on British exports, which now looks likely to be lifted only when Britain begins to carry out a radical cull of its herd and an overhaul of its treatment of animal products destined for the human food chain.

In addition, Germany wanted new regulations for the rendering of beef products and a system of certification of all cattle to show that they did not come from infected British herds.

Britain is also under pressure to set criteria for the wholesale destruction of herds in which mad cow disease has been diagnosed. Germany, moreover, has questioned Britain's ability to dispose of 15,000 cattle a week, saying it does not have the facilities to incinerate more than 3,000 head of cattle a week.

The ministers met for 12 hours until 3 A.M. Tuesday and by late evening there was no word on an agreement — a sign of the disarray the crisis has brought to the European Union just as it gears for months of marathon negotiations on promoting unity. Such is the perceived urgency of the talks here, however, that European officials seemed determined to avoid a complete deadlock.

"It is totally out of the question that we break up without agreeing, and agreeing by a large consensus," said the French agriculture minister, Philippe Vasseur.

"If we have to stay until Easter, so be it," he said.

A key concern for the ministers is Europe's powerful farm lobby, which has been upset by the disastrous fall in beef prices, not only in Britain. In offering to buy up beef during the month of April, the European Union was clearly responding to pressure from farm ministers to assuage their constituents.

However, some European officials said it was unclear whether this intervention would apply only to non-British cattle farmers, who have been pressing for compensation for lost income.

That measure alone, European officials acknowledged, would not come anywhere near reassuring European consumers that it is safe to eat beef.

"We have to show a clear commitment to eradicate this disease," said the Portuguese agriculture minister, Fernando Gomes de Silva. "For years we've just been playing around with it."

JOBS: *Anglo-Saxon and European Ideas Clash at G-7 Meeting*

Continued from Page 1

single solution that fits all our various situations, during this conference we learned from each other's experiences," the statement said.

There was not even a mention in the closing statement of the call from President Jacques Chirac of France for a "third path" between the Anglo-Saxon and European models. "There are many different paths. It's not quite clear what he meant," Douglas Young, the Canadian labor minister, said after the meeting. "I do not see a global solution to these particular problems."

On trade, Mr. Chirac had pushed vigorously for some link between international commerce and labor standards. But other governments were wary because in Paris such talk of a "social clause" has been a code-word for protectionism against France's low-wage, low-cost trade competitors around the world.

Choosing his words carefully, the U.S. commerce secretary, Ronald H. Brown, said in an interview Tuesday: "When we talk about labor standards we mean prohibitions against slave labor, child labor and the right of unions to free association. When others talk about this issue they talk about it in a much broader context and in a way that may inhibit trade and commerce."

Japan's labor minister, Takanobu Nagai, who offered Tokyo's hospitality for the next G-7 jobs conference, said calls for mixing trade and labor standards raised the "danger of protectionism."

The G-7 officials argued into the small hours of Tuesday morning about whether the issue should be taken up at the World Trade Organization or elsewhere. British and German officials in particular insisted that developing countries would never allow the link to be made at the WTO, and thus preferred it being addressed by the more malleable Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

As a result, the compromise agreed upon at Lille was a diplomatic fudge, in which the G-7 did not even say where the matter should be discussed, but referred vaguely to "appropriate fora" for the issue. "We also note the importance of enhancing core labor standards around the world, and examining the link between these standards and international trade in appropriate fora," the statement said.

The question of how interventionist the state should be or of how much of the welfare state needs to be rolled back as a prelude to job creation is nothing new. The issue was first raised two years ago at the original G-7 jobs conference in Detroit, it emerged again during the G-7 summit meeting at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and it will doubtless be talked about at the next G-7 summit meeting, in Lyon at the end of June.

Yet the bottom line, as most private-sector economists agree, is that the unemployment problem exists in Europe rather than throughout the G-7, and that what will really count is whether the leaders of France and Germany have the political will, or even means to tackle the structural aspects of the jobs crisis.

U.K. Holds French Terror Suspect

Reuters

LONDON — British police said Tuesday that they had arrested a French citizen in connection with a wave of bombings in France that killed seven people and wounded 170 last year.

A police spokeswoman said the arrest was made under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

It was not made in response to any request from the French government, she said. Britain is holding a 26-year-old Algerian, Rachid Ramda, whom France wants extradited on suspicion of engineering the bombings.

He was arrested last November and has been held in prison in London while his lawyers fight the extradition request.

HELMS: *On Asia, He Comes Out Smoking*

Continued from Page 1

is acutely aware that the Republican senator is Vietnam's chief obstacle in Washington, plays the tobacco card with skill.

Opening a presentation to North Carolina business executives on Monday morning, he looked at Mr. Helms in the front row and said: "You know, in Vietnam we have a custom now of greeting each other by offering a cigarette."

Later, Mr. Helms said he was impressed, both with Mr. Bang and the market opportunities.

"I was with some Vietnamese recently, and some of them were smoking two cigarettes at the same time," he said. "That's the kind of customers we need!"

Then, pondering his own enthusiasm, he added: "Well, not exactly."

In fact, among the ambassadors here, only Mr. Bang seemed truly interested in North Carolina's traditional crop.

The rest came to strike up relationships with biotechnology and electronics companies and to meet with regional bankers.

But the real drawing card was Mr. Helms himself, whose threats to cut off China's trade privileges and sharp critiques of administration policy toward Japan, Taiwan and India have made him the biggest uncertainty in U.S. policy toward Asia.

So when Mr. Helms invited the ambassadors from all seven countries in the Association of South East Asian Nations, or ASEAN, to visit his home state for three days, including an excursion of more than two hours on Tuesday to the R.J. Reynolds tobacco factory in Winston-Salem, they all cleared their calendars.

"When Mr. Helms invites, everybody comes to listen," said Ambassador S.R. Nathan of Singapore.

Mr. Helms's interest in ASEAN is new, fueled by the phenomenal growth of the members' economies — the gross national products of the seven countries has roughly doubled over the last five years and was equivalent to more than half a trillion dollars last year — and their relative openness to U.S. investment.

"I made up my mind when I became the second North Carolinian in history to head the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that I would do all I could to promote the exports of North Carolina," he said on Monday, "as well as other parts of the country."

His eagerness meshes nicely with the strategy for dealing with Washington that Japan pioneered and other Asian nations follow today: Do your deals in the right congressional district.

Like the Japanese, other Asian countries are beginning to spread their contracts and investments around the country, to build influence in Congress.

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

A Chechnya Exit

Boris Yeltsin is not the first political leader to discover that it is harder to end a war then to start one, but he is fast learning that painful lesson in Chechnya. Fifteen months after launching a war that he assumed Russia would swiftly win, Mr. Yeltsin is desperately trying to untangle his presidency and re-election hopes from a conflict that has gravely damaged both.

As he lunges toward an exit, President Yeltsin shows little sign that he recognizes the mistakes that brought him to this juncture. They are worth recalling because they could be repeated by him or another Russian leader who fails to understand the political and military miscalculations that produced this violent confrontation in the Caucasus.

Like Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet leader, Mr. Yeltsin badly misread the intensity of ethnic nationalism in Russia and its environs. That may be due in part to a nasty intolerance among Russians toward the many minority peoples in their midst. Mr. Gorbachev failed to appreciate the power of long-suppressed nationalist sentiment in the republics, a force that ripped apart the Soviet Union when he loosened the Kremlin straitjacket. Mr. Yeltsin mistook the ethnic pride of Chechens as an emotional impulse that could be easily extinguished by military might.

He could not reasonably accept the Chechen rebel demand for full independence. That would have invited the fragmentation of Russia, which contains dozens of ethnic enclaves. The use of indiscriminate force against the rebels, though, was a clumsy response to the threat. Moscow's brutal military campaign succeeded only in hardening the Chechen resistance. More than 30,000 civilians have died in the war, and much of Chechnya has been bombed into ruins, but the Chechen fighters have not been defeated.

The Russian leader would have been wiser to seek negotiation and a compromise short of independence, which is what he now belatedly proposes. The rebel leader, Dzhokar Dudayev, is no saint, but Moscow should long ago have engaged him in negotiation rather than demonizing him as a terrorist and murderer who should be shot on sight.

Mr. Yeltsin was not well served by his military and security advisers, a group of men not noted for their commitment to democracy and the rule of law. They exaggerated the Chechen threat, encouraged Mr. Yeltsin to send Russian forces into combat without consulting Parliament, and then, with his assent, conducted a war so savage and undisciplined that it was ultimately viewed with revulsion by the Russian people and many in the Russian army.

Mr. Yeltsin was betrayed by his own instinct for decisive action and a troubling authoritarian streak that often seems in conflict with his democratic instincts. When he ordered Russian troops into combat in December 1994, he mistakenly saw the offensive as a bold strike against a despised ethnic group, a step that would enhance his popularity. Once the Russian troops failed to deliver a quick victory, his popularity plummeted.

Mr. Yeltsin's strategy now is to end the bloodshed as best he can and instruct his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, to arrange a settlement with Mr. Dudayev that grants Chechnya autonomous status just short of complete independence. Mr. Dudayev should accept the offer, for the sake of his wounded land and people.

Mr. Yeltsin probably could have had the deal he proposes 15 months ago without firing a shot. He may pay for his mistakes when Russians vote in June. No matter who wins the election, Russia should not forget how it got into this ruinous war in the first place.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The Minimum Wage

The purchasing power of the American minimum wage is about to fall to its lowest level in 40 years. The last time Congress voted to increase it was in 1989. It is time — you could argue, well past time — to do so again. President Bill Clinton has proposed to raise the minimum by 45 cents in each of the next two years, to $5.15 an hour. That is a one-fifth increase, and no such step is ever cost-free. It would have a broad effect on wages, not just those at the minimum but those in the zones immediately above, and it would add to the pressures on smaller businesses particularly to cut costs in order to survive. But the president is proposing to restore the wage, not break new ground. In real terms, it would remain well below the levels that obtained from the 1960s through the early 1980s, and would be only a dime above the level to which George Bush agreed, and which Bob Dole and Newt Gingrich voted for, in 1989.

Senate Democrats tried twice last week to attach the increase to unrelated legislation. The parliamentary situation was such that they needed 60 votes and failed to get them. But it became clear in the process that a majority of senators would likely support the proposal. Republican opponents said the Democratic sponsors were playing politics and seeking to embarrass Mr. Dole. No doubt that is so. The right way to depoliticize the issue is to pass the increase and be done with it.

The opponents make two traditional arguments. The first is that employers will hire fewer people if they have to pay the higher wage, so the increase will end up costing its intended beneficiaries jobs. If this were not so temperate an increase so long delayed, that might be true, and it would be a danger. But most of the evidence, including studies of the effects of the 1989 increase, which was of comparable size, suggests that any job loss would be minimal.

The second argument is that an increase in the minimum wage is an inefficient way of helping people in need, because a lot of people working at or near the minimum are not needy. They are teenagers or other second earners in families that are fairly well off. But that argument, too, is greatly overstated. The vast majority, perhaps three-fourths, of those whose wages would be directly affected by the president's proposal are either over 25 or not in school, and in that sense "adult." There are perhaps 10 million of these workers, their average age is over 30, more than half are women, and as a group they are responsible for more than half their families' earnings. The teenagers among them produce about a fourth of their families' earnings. Nor are these families typically well off. Most of them are found precisely where you would expect to find them, at the lower end of the income scale. It is true that an increase in the minimum will not all go to lower-income families. But most of it will, and it will help those families a lot.

This society increasingly is one in which incomes are unequal. In the lower reaches of the economy particularly they have lagged. The decline in recent years in the value of the minimum wage is not the only reason for this, but it is surely one. A person working full-time year-round at the minimum used to be able to support a family of average size at pretty close to the poverty line. At the present wage that is no longer possible. If the wage is increased as proposed, it will become more nearly so again.

Americans claim as a society to value work. They want people on welfare to quit the dole and take up jobs, and so they should if they can. But the jobs then need to pay enough to sustain them. That ought not be too much to ask of a country and economy as prosperous as America. We say again, there are costs associated with the step. The benefits outweigh them. The increase that the president has proposed is right. Both parties ought to support it; they ought to do it now.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Indispensable Optimism

When we consider the character of [U.S.] leadership, we often talk of our experience in running the oldest development program in the world. We cite the extensive network of universities and think tanks, the creative and dynamic private sector and the effective and dedicated private voluntary agencies. But as impressive as this arsenal of talent is, it is not the ingredient that makes American leadership indispensable. What makes us essential is our optimism, our conviction that problems are there to be solved. So, those of us who would get the United States out of the development business would be eliminating more than our expertise.

—J. Brian Atwood, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, quoted by The Washington Post.

Help the Bosnia Parties to Make Dayton Work

By Carl Bildt

BRUSSELS — The vision of Dayton, that of a common, multiethnic Bosnian state, can be realized. But that will require both the will of the Bosnian people themselves and a seriously renewed commitment from us in the international community.

The difficulties we are facing now are primarily the responsibility of the political leaders on all sides in Bosnia. But we must not neglect the important role we can play ourselves, if we offer the carrots, and if we are willing to use sticks.

As far as the biggest stick is concerned, the strictly military aspects of implementation have gone well, indeed better than we could have expected. With an overwhelming show of NATO force, the International Forces in Bosnia have faced few challenges that they could not easily master. Thanks to the professionalism of Admiral Leighton Smith and the many international troops (29,000 from European Union countries, 18,000 from the United States, about 10,000 from non-NATO members including Russia) under his command, it has been a NATO operation as unique as it has been successful.

But as we look ahead, the onus will clearly shift to the civilian agenda. There the signs are more troubling.

If the international forces are to leave according to plan at the end of the year, as they should, and if the people of Bosnia are to forge a common, prosperous future, as they must, certain things will have to happen.

- The parties must implement all of the provisions of Dayton. They are each in a situation of noncompliance in certain clearly defined areas, notably prisoner release, the departure of foreign forces and cooperation with the International War Crimes Tribunal, including most notably the cases of Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic. There can be no compromise on these questions.
- The international community must deliver on the economic aid we talked about at the Brussels conference last December. There is a shortfall of about a third of the $1.2 billion emergency loan program designed by the World Bank and the European Union. If we cannot hit the targets for Bosnia's short-term needs, I see little prospect of delivering on the much more ambitious programs to secure its long-term future.
- We are moving toward elections later in the year that will provide the opportunity for Bosnia to make clear its democratic vocation. We must assist this process with funding, which is still short, and with expertise. The politicians in Bosnia, on both sides of the divide, must start to talk the language of peace rather than employing the rhetoric of war.

There is bound to be a temptation for politicians to play to the fears and insecurities of their communities, rather than raising their eyes to the more generous dream of a Bosnia confident and united. But if they want to break the cycle of violence, the politicians must take their own risks for peace.

- The role of the media will loom increasingly large in this crucial period. My office will work closely with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is charged with monitoring the elections, to ensure that all parties are given reasonable access to the media, and that decent journalistic standards are maintained.

For instance, we are working up a set of regulations to apply to the government in its relations with the media, and we are encouraging external financial assistance to independent media within Bosnia. The collapse of Yugoslavia into ethnic conflict and even hysteria had a lot to do with dishonesty and manipulation in the local media. They must now play their part in consolidating the peace.

- From the diplomatic side, we must not let too many actors crowd the stage. It is good that we hold periodic meetings to hold the parties to their obligations. But they are past masters at playing international mediators off against each other. That was our experience throughout the war, and I have seen this tendency regularly in Sarajevo and Mostar in the past months. We must continue to show a united front.
- Finally, we must not lose sight of our aim, which is a united, tolerant, multiethnic Bosnia. For those on the outside, that means we should not flirt with suggestions that partition would provide an easy way out. From within, it means that the priority must be reconciliation. All else flows from that.

The parties must know that the eyes of the world are on them. Bosnia is one of the most bitterly divided societies there has ever been, and its task in achieving reconciliation will be immense.

But if the struggle for peace is worth the effort, and better than the alternative, which is more war, Bosnia will continue to need all the attention and support it can get if it is to complete its journey back into the civilized world.

The writer, a former Swedish prime minister, is high representative for application of the Bosnia peace accords. This comment is adapted from a longer article in The Washington Post.

Genocide, It Seems, Is the Ordinary Work of Ordinary People

By Richard Cohen

WASHINGTON — Paul Johnson, a formidable public intellectual and the author of "Modern Times" and "A History of the Jews," was chosen by The Washington Post to review a very important new book, Daniel Jonah Goldhagen's "Hitler's Willing Executioners." The book's subtitle is "Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust," and it is precisely about that: an indictment not of the Nazis but of the Germans.

For obvious reasons, the book is not likely to receive a very cordial reception in Germany. But, then, it didn't get a very cordial reception from Mr. Johnson, either.

He accused Mr. Goldhagen of lacking historical perspective and, therefore, of seeing the Holocaust "as a unique event." And that, Mr. Johnson intones, is "profoundly and dangerously unhistorical."

"The truly dreadful thing about mankind ... is that many peoples, in certain circumstances, are capable of genocide," Mr. Johnson writes.

He mentions what Turkey did to its Armenian population in 1915, and he might have mentioned the Hutu and Tutsi of recent times or, as the China expert, Ross Terrill, tells us, the grisly murders, massacres and cannibalism of China under Mao. Mr. Terrill's accounts are as tough to read as anything Mr. Goldhagen has written about the Holocaust.

Mr. Johnson's review was certainly provocative and in some ways argumentative, but, I think, right on the nose. I haven't the foggiest idea if Mr. Goldhagen is a model of a Holocaust scholar or, as Mr. Johnson suggests, someone out of his depth. I do know that for too long now the Holocaust has been explained in ways that have, as Mr. Johnson noted, made it seem a unique historical event, without precedent or parallel, "owned" by Jews exclusively and sometimes given semireligious status, like a biblical event.

The upshot may well be to fence off the Holocaust, to suggest, no matter how inadvertently, that the Holocaust has little to say to anyone other than the victims and the perpetrators, Jews and Germans.

It is odd, though, that Mr. Johnson uses the Goldhagen book to make his point. This is not the first book to argue that Germans killed Jews without much, or any, hesitation. Christopher R. Browning's "Ordinary Men" made somewhat the same point, although his killers, while unexceptional, were animated more by peer pressure than by race hatred.

What matters most to me is that they were mostly not hardbitten Nazis but ordinary guys drafted in the ordinary way. In no time at all, they were crack genocidists.

Mr. Goldhagen makes that point even sharper. He produces evidence that some German officers actually brought their wives to the killing fields to show what they did at their version of the office. Later they all had dinner, and recorded it all in letters or diaries. Clearly they did not consider their actions shameful.

In some ways, of course, the Holocaust was unique. For one thing, the perpetrators were not some primitive people but the very culture that produced Beethoven and Goethe, not to mention Einstein and Mendelssohn. For another, the resulting literature has easily dwarfed anything written about other historic calamities.

The library of the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington holds some 20,000 volumes, and 1,500 or so are added annually. "Brothers, write it all down," said the historian Simon Dubnow shortly before he was murdered by the Germans. And, brother, did they ever.

But what is bracing about the Goldhagen book is its determination to pin this monstrous crime on the Germans and their anti-Semitism. He has little patience with theories or excuses — that the killers "followed orders," that they were induced by peer pressure to murder, or that they were mere paper shufflers, technocrats and eyeshade actuaries whose evil was banal. No, Mr. Goldhagen's are enthusiastic killers, sadistic bigots and so thoroughly rotten that you cannot believe they were members of the human race.

To my mind, though, all that puts the Holocaust in the company of other genocides. For the German soldier who was photographed shooting a mother and her baby there is, more recently, the Serbian women who reportedly sexually mutilated Muslim men. For Babi Yar there is Srebrenica. The difference is not intent but organizational ability. In that respect, the Germans had it all over the Serbs.

But, enough. If each individual is unique, then his or her murder is a unique event. So, too, mass murder. It is not something that happened just once and could never happen again, but something that happens time and time again. Mr. Johnson is right and so is Mr. Goldhagen, and that, of course, constitutes a warning. Genocide is the ordinary work of ordinary people.

The Washington Post.

An article by Daniel Jonah Goldhagen summarizing his book's conclusions appeared on this page on March 19.

When Murdering Jews by the Millions Was Nothing Special

By A.M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK — I have read a book that deals with the kind of mind that created Auschwitz and the thousands of other German factories of death. It is not about Hitler's mind but about the mind of scores of millions of ordinary Germans of that time, and for at least a century before.

It is about what formed that mind, which allowed ordinary Germans, almost all, to acquiesce in the slaughter of the Jews, and led many to become uncoerced executioners.

That mind is the point and significance of a new, historic book, "Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust." It is by Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, a professor at Harvard.

For those who care intensely about how the Holocaust came to be, it has never been possible to believe that 6 million Jews could have been degraded, tortured and killed just by gangs of sick Nazi sadists, or by Germans who somehow were coerced into it.

The permanent value of the book is that it provides evidence and analysis to show that no coercion was necessary, that at least 8 million soldiers, police and death camp guards were involved in committing the Holocaust, that most were ordinary and willing Germans and that almost all of 50-odd million other ordinary Germans knew of the degradation, torture and killing but remained icily aloof — or agreed.

Mr. Goldhagen's achievement is that denials of these realities will no longer be possible, except as a mask for approval or cowardice.

On almost every page, Mr. Goldhagen presents evidence about the central questions of the Holocaust. Who did it? How, in elemental humanity, could they do such things?

It was done, he shows, by average Germans, not just some SS troopers in jackboots. They could commit this monstrousness of thought and act because for more than a century German anti-Semitism, entrenched into German culture by officialdom, churches, schools and families, grew around the "concept" that Jews were nonhuman enemies, vermin carrying death to all nations.

From this came what he calls the "eliminationist" lust to drive them entirely out of society. From there it was a short step toward annihilation: vermin.

Hitler did not shoot his way to power. Mr. Goldhagen relates how ordinary Germans made the Nazis their biggest party. They cheered Hitler's ascension, knowing from his own mouth that after elimination of Jews from society would be their elimination from life.

Together Hitler, his Nazis, the special anti-Semitism of ordinary Germans and their willingness created the singularity of the Holocaust — the attempt to kill every Jew on earth, to the last child.

No, not every German believed that Jews were lice. But Mr. Goldhagen makes the case that enough did to make Hitler's annihilation goal not only feasible but fairly simple.

Where gas chambers did not exist, as in the death marches from the camps when Germany was being defeated, there were plenty of ordinary German men and women ready to kill the Jews and have their pictures taken doing it. Without Germany's defeat, the Holocaust would have gone on — and with the help of slaughterers in Eastern Europe. That is another book.

He estimates that at least 100,000 ordinary Germans and possibly five times that many did the actual killing — not counting the millions carrying out the daily bestialities. So very ordinary was killing Jews that even the methodical Germans did not count the killers.

Like walking through Auschwitz, this book is not easy for the heart to handle, and no use to the murdered. But, unlike Auschwitz, it tells what kind of people did the killing and how they could. That makes it very much of use to the living.

The New York Times.

Of Mad Cows and Englishmen

By John Micklethwait

LONDON — It has been a typical British cock-up, the latest in a long line stretching back from Lloyds of London through the battle of the Somme to the Charge of the Light Brigade. It has involved the British establishment, unnecessary secrecy, and a series of muddled decisions — most, as usual, made by decent people acting in good faith.

The affair brings up two issues important to people the world over. The first is the whole concept of science's inability to measure risk; the second is whether any of us will ever look at our lunch in the same way again.

First, the facts, such as we know them. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE, belongs to a group of degenerative diseases that attack animals' brains. Its main human equivalent, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, is rare, affecting only about one person in a million and typically attacking old people. (Its best known victim is the Russian choreographer, George Balanchine, who died at age 79.) But BSE does have a more common cousin, scrapie, that has killed sheep and goats for centuries.

There have been 161,000 cases of BSE in British herds in the past decade — far more than anywhere else. British cattle probably caught the disease from, in effect, eating sheep — bits of their brain, spinal cord or other forms of offal (BSE hides in the central nervous system).

For decades it was common practice for ground-up bits of animals to be used in cattle feed. The British farmers' mistake was to use a higher proportion of animal parts than other countries, and to prepare the feed less hygienically.

In 1988, with the countryside filling up with deranged cows, the government banned this practice; it also outlawed the use of various bits of cows in human food. Meanwhile, it continued to insist that there was absolutely no scientific evidence linking BSE to CJD. The overall impression was of farce rather than danger. Mad cow jokes were common.

All this changed on March 20, when Prime Minister John Major's government announced the possibility — no more — that 10 fairly young people had contracted a new strain of CJD that might be linked to BSE. The Tories have since pleaded with the public that British beef is "safe in the common usage of the word," but nobody, it seems, believes them.

It seems inevitable that Mr. Major's government will have to order the slaughter of some cows just to assuage public opinion. Estimates of the cost begin at $5 billion.

As an example of political ineptitude, the mad cow drama will take some beating. A political adage says you should never go into any room if you don't know if there is an exit. The Tory government released the dramatic new research without any remedy for the problem, other than some waffle about setting up a commission to study it.

If there had been a simultaneous announcement that none of the older cows would be allowed to enter the food chain, panic would probably not have set in. Instead, having been told that nobody was doing anything, consumers took matters into their own hands.

In the end, the mad cow crisis is really about science. Many of the intensive farming techniques that caused BSE were once heralded as "scientific." Now this magical discipline has convinced millions of people to stop eating a substance without proving that it has done them any harm.

Get rid of all the scientific speculation, and the layman is left with two commonsense conclusions. The first is that beef is pretty safe and getting more so. As of October, only one British cow born in 1993 had got BSE — as against figures of 30,000 in the 1980s.

This implies that the sensible way to deal with BSE is to let the older cows die off — without letting them into our food chain — rather than killing millions of them.

The second conclusion is that the only really mad thing is the panic itself.

The writer is business editor of The Economist. He contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.

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IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: French Rebuff

ST. PETERSBURG — A story going around inner diplomatic circles follows. The Emperor of Germany decided once again to try to gain the friendship of France. The supreme effort was made in the now famous Transvaal telegram. For a moment it succeeded, and France and Germany were nearer to becoming friends than ever before. Then came the bitter French press campaign, crying "Germany is merely trying to break up the Franco-Russian alliance," and "France's only terms of agreement with Germany must be the restitution of Alsace-Lorraine."

1921: Forest of States

LOS ANGELES — A "forest of States" is planned for Exposition Park by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. It hopes to obtain from every State in the Union, as well as from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Philippines and Alaska, a representative tree. The Governor of each State is to be asked to send a tree typical of his State. Idaho will be represented by a white pine and Louisiana by a magnolia.

1946: War Crimes Law

PARIS — [The Herald says in an Editorial:] There is a view that Nazi and Japanese war crimes trials are an attempt to manufacture law, and to convict men of crimes defined after they were committed. Humanity will not accept this view. Perhaps some war crimes have not been codified under international law, but such crimes have been defined by humanity for thousands of years. The people of the world recognize that planning, condoning or permitting mass murder is a crime. It is time to build up a body of international law against this crime.

OPINION/LETTERS

Jail's No-Frills Reality Enlightens a Judge

By Colman McCarthy

WASHINGTON — Obviously, Sol Wachtler hadn't been heeding the wise words of politicians who say that America's prisons are luxury resorts, Club Feds or, in Senator Phil Gramm's campaign speech phrase, Holiday Inns. Otherwise, Mr. Wachtler would have had no fear when entering a medium-security federal prison in Butner, North Carolina, on Sept. 28, 1993.

That day, the 63-year-old New Yorker became the unlikeliest inmate among the nation's 1.1 million state and federal prisoners. Mr. Wachtler had been the chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals in New York, the highest ranking member of the state judiciary. He came to that court in 1972, after serving four years as a justice of the New York Supreme Court.

Mr. Wachtler's decisions were laced with eloquence. His other writings included this: "The greatest responsibility for our national welfare does not rest with statutes carved in stone but with the principles, conscience and morality of the individuals who constitute this generation."

Mr. Wachtler's personal ethics failed him in the early 1990s when he began harassing a woman with whom he had an affair. Three carloads of FBI agents pulled him over on the Long Island Expressway for an arrest. Soon after, he resigned in public humiliation. He pled guilty to harassment and was sentenced to prison for 15 months.

Mr. Wachtler kept a diary. Last month The New York Times ran a 3,000-word excerpt. By any standard — factual reporting, unerring analysis, logical conclusions — Mr. Wachtler has written an unreservedly compelling account of the dehumanizing reality of prison life. Little that he experienced came close to corroborating the claims of candidates and officeholders that prisoners are living in country clubs with too many weight rooms, televisions and privileges.

In January 1995, the No-Frills Prison Act was introduced in the House by Representative Dick Zimmer, Republican of New Jersey. Section 2 of the bill would require "the elimination of luxurious prison conditions." Such frills as in-cell coffee pots, in-cell TVs, weightlifting equipment, computers and earned good-time credits would go.

During his months of caged punishment, Sol Wachtler saw meanness, misery and violence but not much luxury. He recalls his robed days on the bench when, being a dutiful jurist, he would take tours of state prisons: Wardens made him "feel like a vestige of royalty," he recalled.

"I always knew that I was seeing only what I was supposed to see, but I felt my visit was a demonstration to the inmates that we cared about their conditions. Now that I am a prisoner, and judges are being shown the facility that imprisons me, I realize how deluded I was in those years by my own vanity and by those escorts who so carefully planned my itinerary."

As an inmate, Mr. Wachtler saw judges taken through an air-conditioned mental health unit: "They were not escorted through the vast majority of the units, which had unventilated, cramped double-bunked cells built for two but each holding four inmates. My home was one of these.

"The only thing accomplished by these tours is to create yet another group of propagandists who spread the word that life in prison is pretty good or — far more ominous for the future treatment of prisoners — that life in prison is too good."

One night, Mr. Wachtler was stabbed while sleeping. After receiving stitches for the wound, not by a doctor and not with an anesthetic, he was handcuffed and taken to a security room. There he was told by an officer that the assailant had been found: "Sol, you did a lousy job. We all know you did it to yourself."

Mr. Wachtler wrote, "I looked at him in silence and disbelief. 'But why would I want to stab myself?' "

The officer replied, "Because you want to get out of Butner, and you figured this would be the quickest way to do it."

Mr. Wachtler then spent nearly a month in solitary confinement.

While in prison, the former chief judge met men who had once been in his court years back. He met men whose sentences he now realized were irrationally severe, owing to unbendable sentencing guidelines. As a result, he writes, "we cannot build prisons fast enough and, instead of exploring alternatives, we continue to criminalize things which should not be criminalized."

Mr. Wachtler was released from prison in October 1994. He returned to his home in Great Neck, New York, where he is a consultant for dispute-resolution programs. He works also to raise funds for legal assistance for poor people.

In Congress, the No-Frills Prison Act has passed the House and Senate. It is part of an omnibus spending bill about to become law.

Washington Post Writers Group.

The New $100 Bill Reflects an Aesthetic of Insecurity

By Charles Paul Freund

WASHINGTON — It may seem odd to consider currency and its design in terms of the visual culture; the sight of money — especially in one's own wallet, and even more especially when it consists of large denominations — usually engenders such a sense of satisfaction that the question of design may seem beside the point.

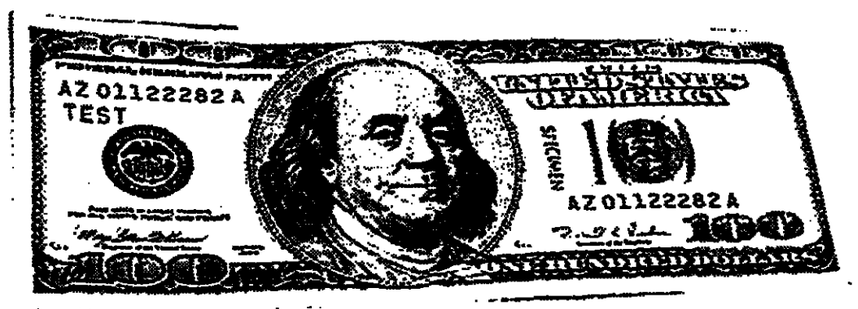
Nothing could be less true. Money has had two essential functions since the minting of coinage began some 2,500 years ago: The obvious one has been to facilitate trade, by symbolizing value in numbers. The sometimes less obvious one has been to propagandize on behalf of the authority issuing the currency, by symbolizing power in images. To value paper currency is not merely to be greedy; it is also to validate political and cultural power.

MEANWHILE

A change in the graphic design of a familiar currency, such as the new $100 bill now being distributed to federal reserve banks, is thus worth pausing over, all the more so as the other, more common, smaller denominations, will soon be redesigned as well. The new bills will be distributed periodically over the next five years.

The redesigned $100 bill is instructive, both in what it changes and what it retains. Many anti-counterfeiting devices important to the Treasury (color-shifting ink, an embedded security thread, microprinting) are not readily apparent. Other changes are striking: Gone is most of the ornamental lacework (the anti-counterfeiting device of yore); gone is Ben Franklin's grandfatherly appearance; gone is the familiar symmetry.

Franklin, notably younger, larger and now off-center, remains, and this has already drawn complaints. That he is younger is not very surprising: The portrait of Franklin used in the 1920s, when the old bill was designed, doubtless was perceived as portraying a sage founding father who printed some of the nation's earliest paper money as well as those famous economic aphorisms; now it probably strikes viewers as a picture of senescence bundled against the cold, another sign of the declining status of age. That the portrait is so much larger is unexceptional: The ever-increasing prominence of pictorial elements in all design, from product packaging to newspaper layout, is a function of a culture that now prefers to see rather than read.



Agence France-Presse

The problem for some critics is that Franklin, a white male, is still there at all; another front in the continuing struggle for control of the national history and symbols.

No matter what their contribution to history, once-apotheosized figures like Franklin are seeing their actual attributes ignored. Today, such men are merely reduced to their race and sex.

Anyway, there Franklin is on the new bill, to the left of where he was on the old bill, and that is the most interesting change of all: It appears to subvert the essential guiding principle behind the design of the currency.

Unlike the paper money of many other countries, the art in Americans' billfolds has not been much concerned with beauty; its aesthetic is that of power.

French francs and Italian lire, to name only two other currencies, feature dynamic, asymmetrical designs, inks with eye-catching and attractive colors, tableaux and portraits of painters, poets and composers. Such currencies are fashioned as graphic representations of the cultures they both serve and celebrate.

American money design in this century, symmetrical and monochromic, could not be less concerned with culture. What it is concerned with is stability and trustworthiness — after all, the old $100 bill is the most widely circulated currency in the world.

Dynamism and artistry are risky, subject to changes in fashion and taste. Stern symmetry, oblivious to art, has long been what dollar design is about.

Indeed, these are the hallmarks of traditional, self-conscious capitalist design in general. The message of judicious stability sent by the currency is much the same message as that intended by board-of-directors portraiture, stock and bond design and even traditional American bank architecture, with its heavy facades and sturdy columns. While such architecture was undone by the opening of bank branches in suburban strip malls, numerous old downtown banks are still standing, incongruously housing discount shoe stores and night clubs behind their thick pillars.

Why subvert the currency's apparent visual strength this way? Actually, that too is an anti-counterfeiting decision. Bills get folded in the center and sustain much of their damage there. To keep the portrait and the new, concentric circles within it clean, an enlarged portrait was moved over. The result is a merely asymmetrical design, in which virtually all of the graphic decisions have been driven by a concern with criminality.

In this strategy, the new currency has lots of design company: The visual experience of America is increasingly one that reflects an aesthetic of insecurity.

Parks are now being laid out so that there are no secluded places in them; people apparently want to scan an open park before they walk through it. Public building interiors have few if any features that can hide a threat, designs that translate into open and sterile spaces. Public benches are disappearing, so that no one has an excuse to loiter on them. Trees and shrubs are being removed from around buildings so that people don't have to worry about who may be hiding behind them. The very features that were once believed to soften a visual environment now are seen as making it a threatening one.

We can now add the $100 bill to this list. The new appearance does for design what a set of iron bars on ground-floor windows does for the view. Maybe that accounts for the pursed and none-too-happy look on Ben Franklin's new face.

The Washington Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How to Confront 'Mad Cow' Disease

Regarding "Beef Crisis Deepens EU's Rift" (March 27):

Three factors underlie the European Union's decision to ban the export of British beef because of the spread of "mad cow" disease:

First, the British government has been intransigent about integration into the EU. Where the British have indeed accepted European standards, the acceptance has been sullen and grudging. Inhabitants of the rest of the EU do not view the British as "good Europeans." Great Britain is, therefore, politically isolated and reaping the anti-Europeanism it has sown.

Second, were the export of British beef not forbidden, then consumers throughout the EU would be uncertain if beef in their local markets was contaminated, and beef sales would probably decline drastically. The whole European beef industry would, therefore, suffer because of the lack of hygiene in Britain.

Finally, the policies of the British government and British beef industry toward the entire issue have been self-serving. Their argument that no irrefutable evidence exists linking "mad cow" disease to Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease reminds me of the torturous reasoning of the American tobacco industry, which has long denied a link between smoking and lung cancer.

I have given up cigarettes. I may well give up beef — and probably be better off for it.

STEPHEN KLEIN.
Munich.

People now realize they have been eating cows that have been fed the brains and spinal cords of other cows. Regardless of the safety of beef, many people in industrialized nations will turn to other sources of protein. The idea of cannibal cows grazing on the offal of their own species is a macabre thought whether you're eating a hamburger or a filet mignon.

E. H. ROELFZEMA.
Amsterdam.

After 10 cases and 8 deaths reported by the British government over some 10 years, a suspected but not yet totally proven source — British beef — has been banned from most European countries as well as other nations.

Isn't it paradoxical that every hour of every day for decades and perhaps longer a similar number of persons have been dying from a cause that has been unquestionably proven — and yet no one seems to care about the very real dangers posed by cigarette smoking.

HENRY STRAGE.
Wengen, Switzerland.

Some German states had already risked censure by the European Union by banning British beef. Now that the EU has finally had the courage to agree, Europeans may grasp one of the advantages of a European authority over national governments.

GERARD MENUHIN.
Gstaad, Switzerland.

"Mad cow" disease could turn out to be as serious a threat to mankind as AIDS. Nobody expected back in the early '80s, when just a few cases of AIDS were reported, that it would become such a grave problem. The European Union should respond strongly to the threat of the spread of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

ANWAR UL HAQUE.
Al Khubar, Saudi Arabia.

So Britain does not understand why other countries wish to keep out animals that may have a fatal disease which may be transmitted to human beings. Does not Britain do exactly the same, with its quarantine system for any pet one brings into that country?

INGRID C. S. RIETVELD.
Brussels.

China and Taiwan

Regarding "Beijing Assails Congress's Call for the Defense of Taiwan" (March 22):

I have yet to understand Washington's justification for the show of U.S. military strength off the Taiwan Strait. It is, of course, military intimidation tactics of a rather coarse nature, and, so I am told, indicates a clear message to mainland China from the United States not to consider an invasion of Taiwan.

But I also see that, like the majority of the world, the United States has a very clear "One China" policy. Taiwan is not an independent nation. It never has been. It is a part of China that is occupied by the losers of the Chinese civil war — the renegade province, as the mainland likes to call it. This means that this is an internal issue for China.

It would, of course, be tragedy if the mainland decided that force was the only way to resolve this issue, and one the Beijing leadership would live to regret. At the same time, it is Beijing's prerogative whether to use force. It is the prerogative it chose to exercise during the Tiananmen demonstrations, and the United States did not perceive a right to interfere. The United States does have the right to protest, absolutely. The right to interfere, absolutely not.

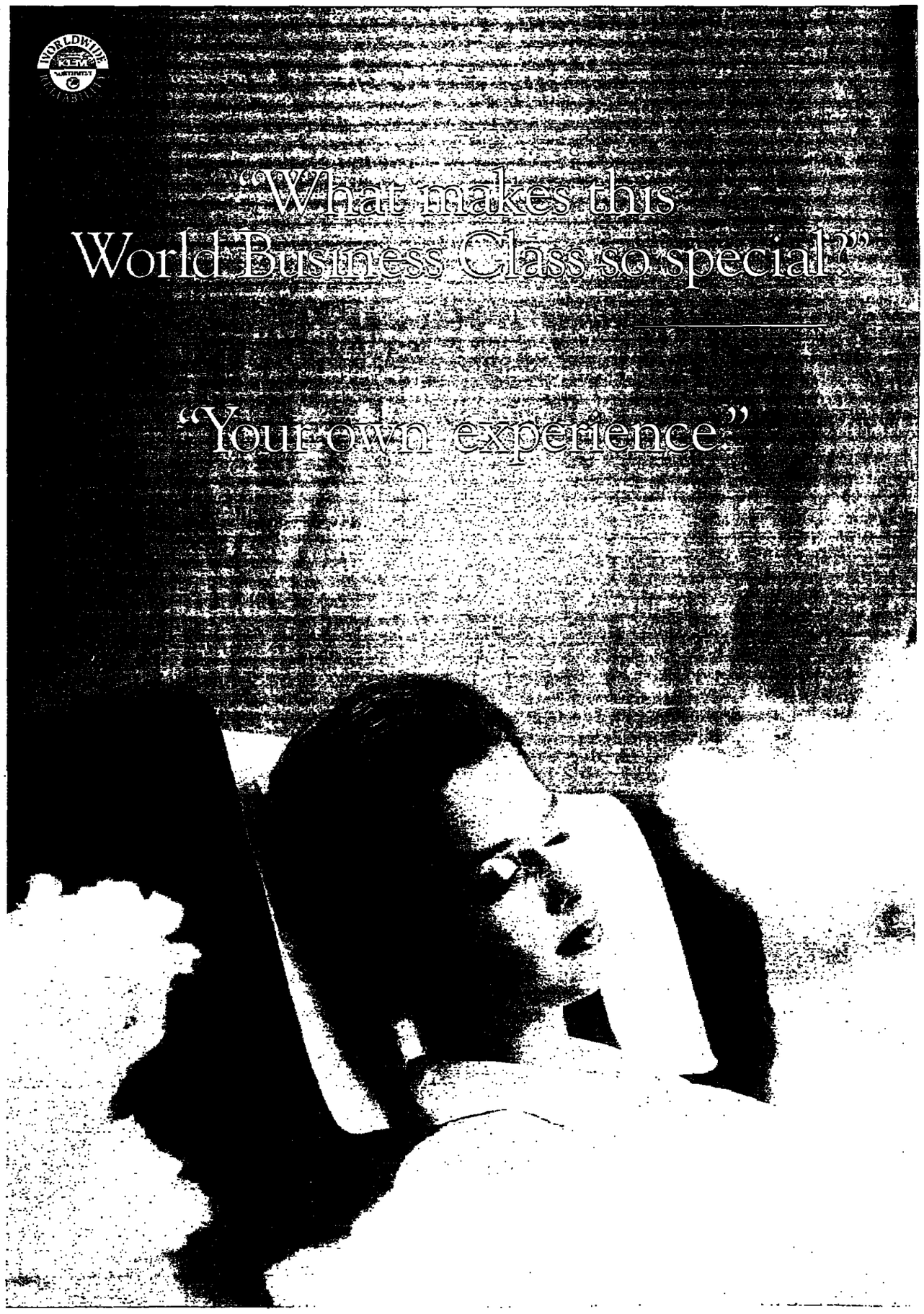
THOMAS LEONG.
London.

It looks as if China fooled The Washington Post ("*Stability Across the Strait*," *Editorial, March 28*) as easily as the rest of the Western press. China may be heavy-handed, but it's doubtful that Beijing expected its military exercises near Taiwan to change the course of the Taiwan elections. The consensus that China roared, then realized its mistake, is misguided.

China probably accomplished what it wanted with its show of military might — and that is give a clear sign that Beijing will meet any move by Taiwan toward independence with resolve. It is ridiculous to believe that China thought it could rob President Lee Teng-hui of re-election.

China knows it won't get Taiwan back in a day, or even after a few war games. But Beijing won't let anyone on the island hint at independence without hearing a very loud objection from the mainland.

JIM SCIUTTO.
Hong Kong.



Uncertainty Hangs Over Bosnia Vote

West Struggles to Lay A Democratic Base

By Michael Dobbs
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Billed by the Clinton administration as a crowning moment in restoring peace to Bosnia-Herzegovina, planned elections there are turning into a major test of U.S. and international willingness to enforce the nation-building provisions of the Dayton agreement.

With the vote set for Sept. 14 at the latest, U.S. officials and Western experts acknowledge they face a struggle to create the political conditions necessary for "free and fair elections." A major uncertainty is the extent to which the American-led peacekeeping force is ready to take responsibility for running the election and providing security to voters who want to return home.

The stakes are high, for the United States as well as Bosnia. Western European officials have said the Clinton administration could come under pressure from their governments to extend the one-year mandate of the international force if the elections are postponed. President Bill Clinton has vowed to withdraw U.S. peacekeepers within approximately a year.

The administration also would find it very difficult to claim it has achieved its political goals in Bosnia without the transfer of power to elected institutions.

Although peace force commanders have recently expressed a willingness to get involved in economic reconstruction projects, they are still shying away from overtly political tasks. International experts who have had experience organizing elections in other war-torn countries contend that only the peace force has the communications and organizational resources to ensure a successful election.

"The military is concerned about mission creep, but mission creep is absolutely essential," said Ron Gould of Elections Canada, who headed an international advisory group that helped set up the election structure. "The bottom line is that without the direct support of the military and the police, there will be no election," he said, referring to the United Nations police force.

The task of organizing the election has been assigned to a team from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe headed by a veteran American diplomat, Robert Frowick. Mr. Frowick heads a provisional election commission made up of delegates from the Muslim, Croatian and Serbian communities, as well as international representatives.

U.S. officials say they are impressed by the way in which the provisional election commission has gone about drawing up voter registration lists and establishing field offices around Bosnia. They add, however, that it is too early to predict whether the election will achieve its goal of establishing the political structure for a unified Bosnian state, or even whether it will take place as scheduled.

"We have a major challenge, probably the most complex of its kind this century, anywhere in the world," Mr. Frowick said in a telephone interview from Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia. "However, there also is a major commitment by the international community to try and make this work."

The commission has drawn up criteria for a "free and fair" election, many of which are conspicuously absent in Bosnia today. They include the creation of a "politically neutral environment," guarantees on freedom of movement and freedom of association, a promise of freedom of expression for all political parties and protection of the right to vote in secret.

"The administration has done virtually nothing to create a secure and safe environment for the elections," said Steven Walker, a former State Department official who heads the Action Council for Peace in the Balkans. The Bosnian government, he said, "controls most of the media. It is even worse in Serb and Croat-controlled areas."

Mr. Frowick acknowledged that it would be extremely difficult to hold the election on June 14, the day originally specified by the Dayton peace agreement. He said the provisional election commission was aiming to reach a decision "some time in June" on whether the necessary conditions have been created for a free election. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe is authorized to delay the election by up to three months.

■ Perry's Proposals to Balkans

Defense Secretary William J. Perry on Tuesday proposed a series of small steps by southern Balkan nations that he said could help the region overcome the kinds of ethnic conflict that led to war in Bosnia, The Associated Press reported from Tirana, Albania.

Addressing the opening of a meeting of defense ministers from Albania, Bulgaria and Macedonia, Mr. Perry made the following suggestions:

- Opening up their peacekeeping training centers to troops from neighboring countries. He said the United States could provide money to help train and equip their peacekeeping units.
- Creating military "rapid response" teams to work on search-and-rescue missions, civilian emergencies and disaster relief.
- Exchanging information about military budgets, plans and policies.
- Setting up telephone hot lines between their defense ministers.
- Withdrawing military units from border regions.



Pawel Kopczynski/Reuters

Lech Walesa accepting a set of tools on Tuesday from a well-wisher.

Walesa Returns to Job At Shipyard, Sort Of

Parliament Weighs Ex-President's Pension

By Jane Perlez
New York Times Service

GDANSK, Poland — Chauffeured in a black Mercedes, accompanied by a bodyguard and wearing a suit, former President Lech Walesa turned up at the shipyard in Gdansk on Tuesday, ostensibly to reclaim his old job as an electrician.

But as his mode of arrival suggested, Mr. Walesa did not appear very serious about work. Not even a new set of eight red-handled screwdrivers brought by his favorite Roman Catholic priest, Henryk Jankowski, persuaded Mr. Walesa to don overalls and pick up tools.

Instead, he chatted with the management of the financially troubled shipyard for which the government has just announced it is seeking a buyer. And he held a news conference, saying he was not sure whether his political obligations would meld with the daily grind at the yard.

"If I can't couple the two things I will ask for another year of leave," Mr. Walesa said.

In fact, Mr. Walesa, who as an electrician started the Solidarity trade union movement that brought down the Communists and then went on to become president, came back to the shipyard as a way of forcing the government to settle the question of his pension.

Mr. Walesa lost his attempt at reelection last November to a former Communist, Aleksander Kwasniewski. Since then, he has established a think tank in Warsaw to help him mold center and right of center political parties into a viable opposition. He leaves next week for a fund-raising lecture tour in the United States.

Mr. Walesa made it clear Tuesday that he was much more interested in the $2,260 monthly pension that a bill now being debated in Parliament would entitle him as a former president than the $350 salary at the shipyard. His bodyguard, who is paid for by the state, receives twice that much.

If Parliament finalizes his pension he would not work at the shipyard, Mr. Walesa said Tuesday. President Kwasniewski said last week that he expected Parliament to pass the bill shortly and that he would sign it immediately.

Mr. Walesa's presence at the yard, at a time when the unions have agreed to layoffs of 2,000 of the 7,300 employees and on the very day the government placed newspaper advertisements seeking international buyers for its 60 percent share in the yard, was not widely welcomed. There were no greeters as Mr. Walesa sped through the gates.

"It's a stupid thing," said Roman Hebel, 55, a technician, at the starting time of 6 A.M., half an hour before Mr. Walesa showed up. "In what democratic country does a president come back to a job like this. He just wants to prove something about his pension."

Similarly, 75 percent of those polled in a national survey published in a leading newspaper said they opposed Mr. Walesa's return to the shipyard.

Although Mr. Walesa was less than enthusiastic about actually working, some in the shipyard took his offer seriously. Marian Zolciak, who is in charge of clothing for workers, specially ordered a new pair of overalls, flannel shirt, cap and shoes, all to Mr. Walesa's measurements.

Mr. Walesa was assigned his old locker — the fourth in the second row from the window — and the grime and bits of dirty snow were scraped away from his workspace. Even his old tool shelf was repainted.

War Crimes Investigators Settle In Near Srebrenica

Reuters

VLASENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — United Nations war crimes investigators moved into eastern Bosnia on Tuesday to prepare to excavate sites believed to be mass graves of thousands of Muslim prisoners massacred by Serbs.

The Bosnian Serbian Army has been accused of killing from 3,000 to 8,000 men who went missing after it captured the Muslim "safe area" of Srebrenica in July.

The prisoners are thought to have been shot and bulldozed into 11 mass graves dug between Srebrenica and Zvornik, 30 kilometers (20 miles) north of Srebrenica, in one of the worst atrocities of the three-and-a-half-year war in Bosnia.

The small group of investigators was sent by the UN War Crimes Tribunal for former Yugoslavia.

They went first to a NATO peacekeeping base at Vlasenica manned by American troops, on the edge of the search area, and made it clear that they wanted no press interference while they exhumed remains and collated evidence.

They were not expected to begin digging on Tuesday.

The U.S. commander in the area, Colonel John Batiste, said he would protect the investigators but not the grave sites. He said he did not expect trouble from Bosnian Serb troops or police.

"We're going to provide area security no different from what we provide every day," he added. "That will include quick-reaction forces."

The reaction forces would be armed with attack helicopters and artillery, and a small liaison group would be attached to the investigators.

Setting the limits to what his 2nd Brigade of the 1st U.S. Armored Division would do, Colonel Batiste said:

"They will not clear mines. They will not exhume remains. They will not investigate suspected atrocity sites. We will not guard sites, evidence or suspected war criminals. We will not be involved in witness protection."

Commanders of the NATO peace implementation mission have consistently resisted being drawn into the war crimes aspect of the Dayton agreement, which ended the fighting last year.

UN Aims to Cut Costs by $250 Million

By Barbara Crossette
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Caught in a financial crisis and constrained by the first no-growth budget in its history, the United Nations expects to cut $250 million from its operating expenses by the end of 1997, the organization's chief administrative officer has said. Of the total, $98 million in savings has already been identified.

The official, Joseph E. Connor, undersecretary-general for administration and management, said Monday that the agency hoped to eliminate 800 professional jobs; severance and other costs are estimated at $30 million, but the layoffs should yield substantial long-term savings. He said job evaluations would identify candidates for dismissal.

Speaking in a language almost never heard in this bastion of international bureaucracy, Mr. Connor, a former chief executive of Price Waterhouse, said there were "too many people in this organization doing the same job for 20 years."

"Mobility in a world organization is very, very important," he said, adding that there was "nothing like a little creative tension" to get the United Nations moving.

For the first time in the half-century of its existence, the agency will scale down not only personnel but also reports and publications, policy analyses and construction and repair costs.

The U.S. Mission greeted the news with elation. The Clinton administration has said the agency must demonstrate that it can be slimmed down, or Congress will not even begin to pay the $1.5 billion that Washington owes in dues and assessments.

James P. Rubin, spokesman for the mission, said Monday: "Reforming the UN is no easy task, but this does mark a milestone in our efforts to force it to downsize and to come to grips with the problems of unnecessary construction, redundant meetings and unnecessary paperwork."

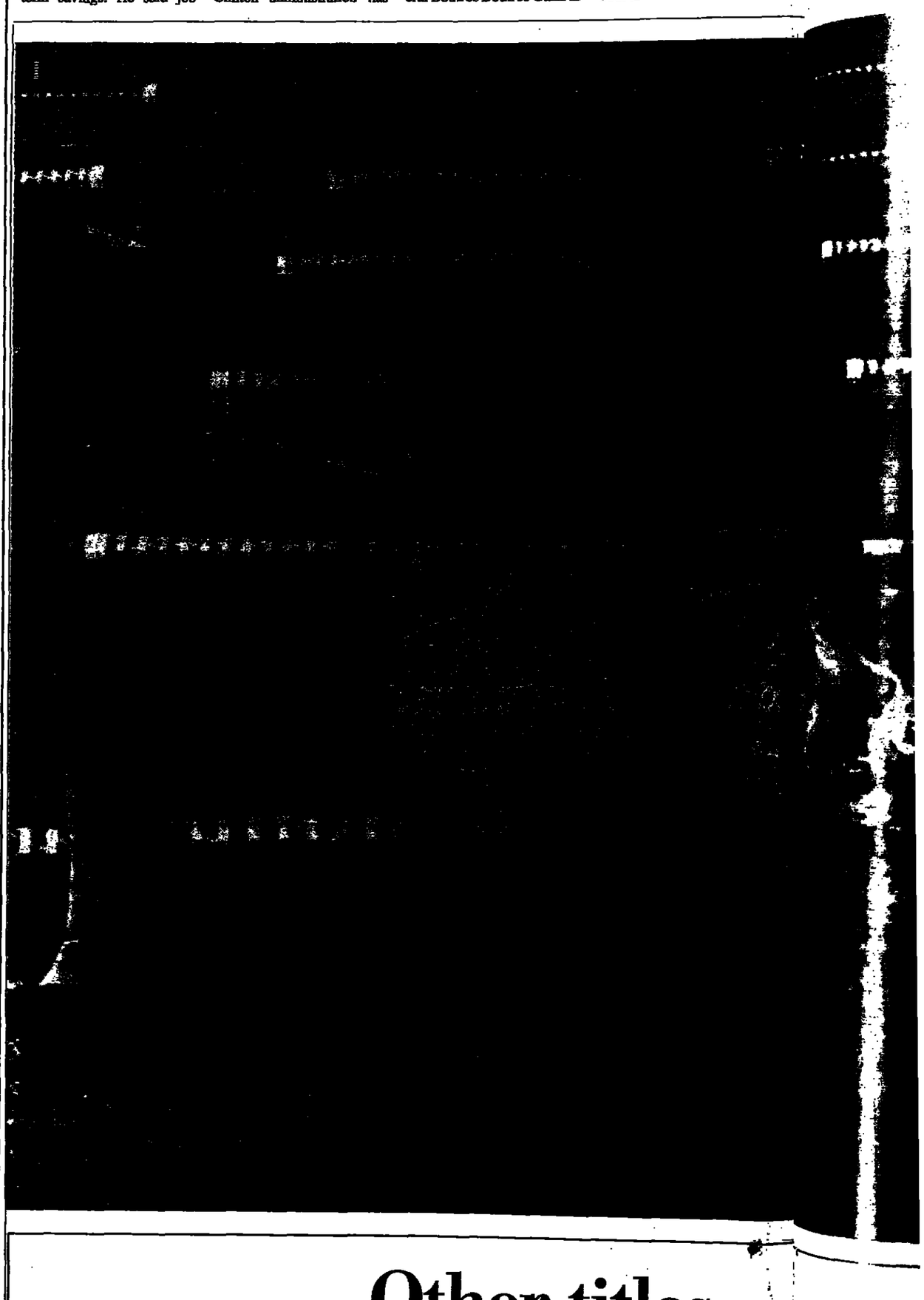
To prevent backsliding, President Bill Clinton has proposed a five-year plan to Congress, during which money would be released for arrears as long as reforms continued. But many fear Congress will reject the plan, leaving others to pay.

They see Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali as needling the United States in a report that proposes cuts in some areas of special U.S. interest. Mr. Connor's remarks were based on that report.

Americans hold more Secretariat jobs than citizens of any other nation, and American companies get about half the procurement orders — $197 million of $396 million in 1995.

The largest cuts will come in administrative services, including conference costs, weekend and night work, publications, statistical and policy analyses, and planning programs to fight poverty and enhance the status of women.

Cuts also will be made in appropriations to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the Human Rights Center, both in Geneva.



Other titles

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INTERNATIONAL

For Whom the Taco Bells Toll?

Fast-Food Firm's Hoax Takes Liberties With Icon

By Paul Farhi
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — No, a fast-food chain is not buying the Liberty Bell. But it sure seemed that way to the thousands of people who flooded phone lines in a sometimes panicky, often angry response to a giant corporate prank.

Without the barest suggestion that its tongue was in its cheek, Taco Bell Corp. announced in full-page ads in five U.S. papers Monday that it had purchased the historic symbol of American freedom that rests in Philadelphia and was renaming it the "Taco Liberty Bell."

The chain even gave a seemingly high-minded reason for the purchase. It was, the company said, "an effort to help the national debt."

The only hint that the ad wasn't all it was cracked up to be was the date it appeared — April 1. As in April Fools' Day. As in hoax.

Taco Bell seemed quite pleased by what came next. Callers jammed its headquarters in Southern California with anxious queries, with the news media close behind. Having snared everyone's attention, the PepsiCo Inc. subsidiary announced that it was all a joke, and that it was actually donating $50,000 for the upkeep of the Liberty Bell and launching a new ad campaign.

"We were shocked. We had no idea this was happening," said Elaine Sevy, a spokeswoman for the National Park Service, which oversees the Liberty Bell exhibit in Philadelphia. "We have just been getting hammered with phone calls."

Many of the callers were "alarmed," she said, believing that the ads were real in light of the shutdown of national parks during the recent federal budget crises. Among those who called the Park Service for reassurance were staff aides to Senators Bill Bradley Democrat of New Jersey, and J. James Exon Democrat of Nebraska, and Representatives John Bryant, Democrat of Texas and Howard P. McKeon, Republican of California.

Firing back, the Park Service director, Roger Kennedy, called the ad "as false as it is cheesy."

As for Taco Bell's $50,000 donation, the Park Service is thinking twice. "Nothing has been finalized on that," the service said.

The White House, meanwhile, took it all in fun.

"We will be doing a series of these," the presidential spokesman, Michael McCurry, told reporters. "Ford Motor Co. is joining today in an effort to refurbish the Lincoln Memorial" as the "Lincoln Mercury Memorial."

Hey, he's only kidding.



Erik de Castro/Reuters

SEPARATED AT BERTH — Philippine workers wrenching an 18-seat Otter private plane off the nose of a Philippine Airlines 737 jet after they collided on the runway in Manila. At least 13 people were injured.



Supreme Court Removes Hurdle to Age-Bias Suits

Unanimous Ruling Rejects 'Over 40' Barrier

By Joan Biskupic
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has issued a unanimous ruling that removes a hurdle for age discrimination suits brought by people who have lost a job or been demoted in favor of a younger worker.

The court ruled that a worker who alleges age discrimination after losing a job to a younger person still has a case even when the replacement is 40 or over.

The decision's impact will be felt most immediately in Virginia, Maryland and other states that fall under the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The Richmond-based court's narrow interpretation of age bias law was reversed by the high court Monday.

But at the same time the court clarified legal standards by saying that workers must show a connection between their age and the action taken against them — a part of the opinion that employers groups applauded.

The case was brought by James O'Connor, a 56-year-old sales manager for Consolidated Coin Caterers Corp. who was let go after the company president allegedly said, "It's about time we started to get some young blood in this company." Mr. O'Connor, general manager for Consolidated's vending machine territory in North Carolina and Virginia, was replaced by a 40-year-old man.

The case posed a key question for the court: If someone claims a job was lost because an employer wanted a younger worker, could there still be age discrimination if that replacement worker was 40 or over. The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed Mr. O'Connor's suit, ruling that people could not sue if they were replaced by someone over 40. That is the age at which the federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act begins covering workers.

Reversing that decision, the Supreme Court said what was relevant was whether someone lost out because of his or her age, not whether the replacement was under 40.

Justice Antonin Scalia, writing for the court, said it simply did not make sense to draw the line as the 4th Circuit did.

"There can be no greater inference of age discrimination when a 40-year-old is replaced by a 39-year-old than when a 56-year-old is replaced by a 40-year-old," Justice Scalia said.

Poachers Kill White Rhino

Agence France-Presse

NAIROBI — Poachers have killed a pregnant female white rhinoceros in the Garamba park in northeastern Zaire, bringing the number of such beasts surviving to fewer than 30, the Worldwide Fund for Nature said Tuesday.

The organization said the body of the 10-year-old rhinoceros, named Juillet, was found last week. She belonged to the northern white rhino species *(Ceratotherium simum cottoni)* whose only remaining members live in the park.

In February, poachers killed another white rhinoceros, a male called Bawesi. They cut off the horns of both beasts.

Rhino horns sell for up to $1,200 a kilogram in Yemen, where they are used for dagger hilts. Powdered rhino horn is also sought in Asia, where it is considered to have aphrodisiac properties.

The fund reported after the death of Bawesi that poaching was on the increase in the Garamba park, which is close to southern Sudan where rebels are fighting to end domination of animist and Christian peoples by the Muslim north.

Before the two rhinos were slain, the fund had not registered cases of poaching in the park for 10 years.

Videotape Catches Police Clubbing Pair After Chase

The Associated Press

SOUTH EL MONTE, California — In a videotaped beating that recalled the Rodney King case in Los Angeles, two sheriff's deputies repeatedly clubbed a Mexican man and woman after a 70-mile highway chase.

Television news helicopters on Monday videotaped the deputies chasing a battered truck crammed with 21 people suspected of sneaking across the border. The truck reached speeds of 100 miles an hour (160 kilometers an hour) before stopping on the side of the highway near South El Monte, which is southeast of Los Angeles.

One deputy, holding his riot stick two-handed like a baseball bat, was videotaped clubbing the driver on the back and shoulders, even as the driver fell to the ground.

When the woman got out of the cab, the same deputy beat her in the back with the riot stick, then grabbed her by the hair and pulled her to the ground. At least one other deputy struck her with his riot stick.

Neither the woman nor the man appeared to offer any resistance or make any attempt to get away.

The others in the truck fled but were later rounded up by the police and taken to an Immigration and Naturalization Service center for questioning.

The unidentified driver suffered bruises and a possible fractured elbow from the baton blows, the police said. He was hospitalized and awaiting booking on charges of evading arrest, throwing objects from a vehicle and possibly assault or hit-and-run for allegedly sideswiping two cars.

The woman was not seriously injured and did not require hospitalization.



The Associated Press

A videotape showing a sheriff's deputy beating a Mexican man and woman.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department immediately began an internal investigation and placed the two deputies on paid leave. Their names were not released, but the department said one had been on the force for 21 years and the other for five years.

"I'm not going to stand up here and say that there was no force used, because you would laugh me out of the room," said Sergeant Mark Lohman, a sheriff's department spokesman. "We saw it, we saw the same videotape that everyone's seen, and we're embarrassed."

José Pescador, Mexico's consul general in Los Angeles, said he was shocked by the television footage. "At first I was angry, but I also was surprised because I didn't believe that those people were police officers," he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California called for an investigation by the U.S. Justice Department.

"The officers just beat those people up — really hard blows," said Ramona Ripston, executive director of the group. "It didn't seem to be necessary. They didn't appear to be resisting."

"It's another Rodney King," she said, referring to the 1991 videotaped beating of a motorist by police officers after a high-speed chase. The officers' acquittal on state criminal charges led to riots in Los Angeles.

At Last, Benin Leader Accepts Defeat at Polls

The Associated Press

COTONOU, Benin — President Nicephore Soglo on Tuesday finally accepted the outcome of last month's election and agreed to hand power to the former dictator who defeated him.

On Monday, the Constitutional Court rejected Mr. Soglo's claims of widespread fraud during the election and declared Mathieu Kérékou the winner with 52.59 percent of the vote. Mr. Soglo received 47.1 percent in the March runoff, it said.

It was the second time the court had proclaimed General Kérékou the winner. Mr. Soglo formally challenged its first declaration, forcing the court to reconsider the outcome based on evidence presented by the loser. The justices said Monday that the evidence did not back up Mr. Soglo's claims of fraud.

There had been fears that Mr. Soglo would try to retain power by force, but instead he congratulated his rival and said General Kérékou 's election proved that freedom of choice existed in the West African country.

"My wish," Mr. Soglo told General Kérékou, "is that under your leadership, democracy and freedom will be consolidated, fundamental liberties will be reinforced, and Benin will continue to be a model for African countries and a nation respected by the rest of the world."

Mr. Soglo defeated General Kérékou at the polls in 1991 and had been praised as a model for leaders in Africa's other new democracies. His austere economic policies, however, quickly led to public dissatisfaction and calls for a return to General Kérékou's old socialist ways.

General Kérékou led Benin from 1972, when he seized power in a coup, until 1990, when public discontent with the economy and one-party rule forced him to hand power to an interim government and to schedule multiparty elections. He became the first incumbent president on the continent to be ousted at the polls when he lost to Mr. Soglo.

r title

available

current slang, and colloquial words and phrases. (Hardcover. 330 pages, UK £28.)

FRENCH COMPANY HANDBOOK 1996

Published annually with the Paris Stock Exchange. Detailed profiles of over 130 major firms, including all companies in the SBF 120 Index (CAC 40 plus 80 other companies). Each profile includes: head office, CEO, investor relations manager, company background and major activities, recent developments, sales breakdown, shareholders, subsidiaries and holdings in France and internationally, 1991-1995 financial performance, and recent stock trading history.
Updated annually for financial analysts, institutional investors, corporate, government and banking executives — anyone who needs to know about the leading companies in the world's fourth-largest economy. (Available July 1996, UK £50.)

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT

Enough About You, Here's the Guy Who Wrote All the Jokes

By Bernard Weinraub
New York Times Service

HOLLYWOOD — His phone has been ringing all week. "The best show in years," said Bruce Vilanch merrily, looking back at the Academy Awards telecast on March 25 and looking ahead to, well, writing just about every awards show in sight.

"I'm doing just about all of them," he said, almost apologetically. "I did the Grammys, the American Comedy Awards, the People's Choice. I did the Ice Capades and the Miss USA Pageant. Frankly, I've done some bizarre specials."

Vilanch leaned forward. "I'm going to Monaco next to do the World Music Awards, a great favorite of mine," he said. "Oh, it's fabulous. You get to sit in the south of France and work with rock stars. Isn't that what show business is about?" He grinned.

A top comedy writer who earns his living by making rock stars, singers and actors sound witty — as if those funny lines just flew out of their mouths — Vilanch, 48, is basking in the glow of the applause for the material he wrote for Whoopi Goldberg and many other stars on the Oscar show.

Seated in Hugo's, a hangout in West Hollywood, the other afternoon, Vilanch was promptly welcomed by a waitress who congratulated him on the success of the show. when he stepped outside, a car screeched to a halt and the driver, a television producer, gave him a thumbs-up.

It's hard not to notice Vilanch. He's big and cherubic, his hair is in curly convulsions, he wears pink-rimmed spectacles and T-shirts that defiantly show off his thoroughly imperfect torso. He laughs a lot and, just as important, he has been writing funny lines since the days when he worked with such performers as Engelbert Humperdinck and the Osmonds.

What's the secret of writing for stars and comedians?

"Having an ear, studying their style, knowing what their character is, what their persona is," he said. "The hardest work is when someone has no persona, which happens a lot on shows like the Oscars, because you have actors who don't have a character to play when they're offstage."

"Whoopi, Bette Midler, Billy Crystal: They all know who they are when they walk on stage," said Vilanch. "I always say Shirley MacLaine knows who she is and who she was. But take an actress like Dianne Wiest. A brilliant actress. but there's no Dianne Wiest persona to play on stage. It's hard to do that."

One of his most memorable Oscar shows was in 1992 when Jack Palance unexpectedly did some push-ups on stage, to the amazement of Billy Crystal, the master of ceremonies, and the writers. The rest of the evening Vilanch and the other writers were scurrying, coming up with one-liners about Palance.

"First Billy said, 'Jack Palance is backstage on the Stairmaster,' and then he said, 'Jack Palance just bungee-jumped off the Hollywood sign,' and then there was a live hook-up with the Apollo satellite, and Billy said, 'The satellite just rendezvoused with Jack Palance, and he's going into orbit,'" Vilanch said. "It became a big running gag, and we won an Emmy."

Vilanch began writing comedy 25 years ago when he was a reporter for The Chicago Tribune and interviewed Midler, who was appearing at a club in Chicago.

He picked up the story: "She called me the next day and said, 'Gee, your column is funny,' and I said, 'You're funny, too; you should talk more on stage.' And she said, 'You got any lines?' A phrase that has reverberated through the corridors of time. Working for Bette became my side gig."

(For Midler's return to the concert stage last year after a 10-year hiatus, Vilanch wrote her an act that began: "Ten years! Time flies when you're on Prozac. But enough about you, let's talk about me. Don't I look good!")

BY 1975, Vilanch had left his journalism job to move to Los Angeles and write for a comedy show featuring the group Manhattan Transfer. Soon he was writing for Flip Wilson, Joan Rivers, Richard Pryor and others.

"Then it became a great adventure because this was show business in all of its sad and spangled permutations," said Vilanch, who began writing awards shows in the 1980s. "Variety television died. There was no more 'Dean Martin Show,' there was no more 'Carol Burnett Show.' Award shows became the variety shows of the current era." His first Academy Awards show was the weird, campy and almost infamous one in 1989 that was produced by impresario Allan Carr and included Rob Lowe in a Snow White song-and-dance number.

Vilanch has many cherished moments. One took place three years ago at an AIDS benefit attended by the Hollywood establishment when Debbie Reynolds appeared 20 minutes before Elizabeth Taylor closed the show.

"Well, here I am," began Reynolds, "sharing something else with Elizabeth."

Vilanch said, "When I gave her that line, she said, 'Oh, nobody will remember: They're all too young.'" And I said, 'Trust me: They'll remember.'"



Ivan Kyncl

Sheila Hancock as Tracey in "Harry and Me": The story of a derelict chat-show host, in a familiar setting.

London's Passion for Sondheim

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — London did not actually set out to mount a Stephen Sondheim festival, but, at a time when his native New York is not the most hospitable of homes (his lifelong ambition to write a thriller for Broadway has just ended ignominiously, a casualty of some of the worst reviews since Pearl Harbor) the West End has welcomed him with open arms and the opportunity to have more musicals running simultaneously than anyone except Andrew Lloyd Webber.

From a previous outing as a thriller-writer, the film script for "The Last of Sheila," we know that he has a passion for mysteries and a keen intelligence in solving them. We will never know whether he's lost his touch or just his audience for straight plays since a thriller with a Broadway life of five performances rarely makes it across the Atlantic. It might have found an audience here because, like Arthur Miller, his work is revered in England as nowhere in the United States, and, at the risk of losing such Broadway friends as I have left, it needs to be noted that all three of his musicals are looking vastly better now than on their first New York outings.

LONDON THEATER



A scene from "Passion."

One of those is "Company," about which about which I have raved quite enough in these columns, the other two are the National's "A Little Night Music," such a hit that in an unprecedented move it will play every single night through August instead of the usual repertory system, and his latest, "Passion" with which it bears some intriguing and hitherto unreported similarities.

Though written 20 years apart, both musicals derive from cult art-house movies: "Night Music" comes of course from Ingmar Bergman's "Smiles of a Summer Night," while "Passion" comes from the largely unknown 1981 Italian movie "Passione d'Amore," itself based on a still more obscure 1869 Italian novel by Tarchetti. So comparisons are not so much odious as largely unavailable: If "A Little Night Music" is about six mismatched lovers in some long-lost tale from the Vienna Woods, "Passion" is about one woman so hideously ugly (and brilliantly played by Maria Friedman) that her obsessive love for a guards officer (handsomely played by Michael Ball) starts by being ludicrously impossible and ends through the arc of the show by becoming inevitable.

I am not convinced that the director Jeremy Sams is right to have added an intermission, since "Passion" works best as a kind of symphony, its score haunting and progressive and as obsessive as the title. Every time Sondheim writes a new show nowadays it is the West End that gets rebuilt; I can think of no other living composer who would have even attempted to score this dark, difficult piece but Sondheim as usual makes it soar.

Yet again Sondheim has pushed out the barriers of the musical, this time I fear so far that other composers are going to need a passport and a road-map eve to find the territory, let alone reclaim it.

At the Royal Court, Nigel Williams's "Harry and Me" is cruelly disappointing. Williams is a good comic novelist and a distinguished maker of arts documentaries for the BBC; he has combined both talents to give us the story of a derelict chat-show host, his producer and researcher, in an office all too familiar to those of us who have ever worked in arts broadcasting. Most of the staff have left in disgust, the show itself is sinking fast through the ratings floor and the star is so drunk and depressed that he can barely make it through the office door.

Ron Cook is just wonderful as the manic producer with telephones clipped to every orifice, and Sheila Hancock does a brilliant series of impressions as the put-upon researcher. For the first 10 minutes I thought we had that comparative rarity, a brilliantly funny new comedy. But it quickly becomes clear that Williams has not the faintest idea where to go from this start: He has essentially written a revue sketch which the desperately hardworking cast has to play and replay to make up the two hours' traffic of the stage. Were Williams even half as good at plots at he is at the one-liners, then we might have had a play here instead of a few good TV gags.

AT the Young Vic, Polly Teale's revival of "Miss Julie" may in principle seem a little unnecessary: Since 1965 the drama has received more than 50 productions over here, a record for foreign plays beaten only by "Hedda Gabler." Life, we are told in Meredith Oakes' agile new translation "is scum, moving us across the water until we sink" which is a pretty good summary of Strindberg himself. All the same, this brisk, brittle production is worth a look for Susan Lynch as the Swedish Lady Chatterley and John Hannah as her Mellors.

Hannah, of "Four Weddings and a Funeral" fame, plays Jean with all the brooding modernity of a Hollywood star; Lynch settles for a home-counties hysteric, and the two styles collide as often as they match. But there is always something fascinating about sexual heat amidst Scandinavian cool.

In one sense this is a moralistic Victorian melodrama; in another it is an attempt to approach the 20th century's forthcoming addiction to psychiatry and brutal sexuality and perhaps that best explains its ongoing popularity.

Horsing Around With a Classic

By Paul Moor
International Herald Tribune

BERLIN — What Germans call "Regie-Oper" — opera dominated by staging — has become epidemic in Germany. Hans Neuenfels's new production of Verdi's dear old classic "Il Trovatore" exemplifies this pestilence.

Regie-Oper takes some hapless staple and renders it ostensibly more relevant today by horsing around with its nonmusical aspects. For example, Harry Kupfer's production of Gluck's "Orpheus and Euridice" at Berlin's Komische Oper depicts the tragic hero of Greek mythology as a lovelorn drifter in T-shirt, jeans and sneakers with a guitar slung over his shoulder.

Since 1981, the Deutsche Oper Berlin has had at its helm Götz Friedrich, one of the world's finest stage directors. Friedrich lays remarkably few operatic eggs, but he has himself horsed around with some works, to distressing effect — for example, wrenching Strauss's "Rosenkavalier" out of Empress Maria Theresa's Vienna into the period of its 1912 composition.

Friedrich also engages other imaginative directors with whose styles his own has little in common. For such courage he deserves commendation, but he has much to answer for when guests foist upon audiences such an affliction as this "Trovatore."

Visually and dramatically, outrage succeeds carefully premeditated outrage. If you enjoy egregiously immature brattishness, you'll love this production. Forget about realism, or any semblance of it.

Leonora sings of the mysterious troubadour of the title, and down drops a gigantic photograph of a scruffy Latin youth, nude except for a tattoo on each folded arm, genitalia concealed by crossed pieces of black tape. An intervention by Professor Friedrich?

One can scarcely imagine Neuenfels shrinking from nudity, particularly after briefly interpolating three topless extras who serve no purpose except to display half a dozen breasts.

As Leonora continues her aria, a hooded executioner type holds up before that photograph's pubic area first the body of a guitar, then a human skull.

Dramatic subtlety? Forget it.

The evening's first part closes with breechclouted Jesus, thorn-crown a-twinkle with Christmas-tree lights, rising from a tilted cross long enough to place a ring on Leonora's finger, among nuns in pleated skirts in every color of the rainbow. Jesus picks the cardinal as his partner to lead the wedding dance.

Weird becomes ever weirder. The second part opens in the neon-lighted Bar of the Immaculate Conception. At the end, in a Nazi concentration camp, Manrico manifests facial lesions: AIDS.

Musically, this otherwise execrable production has much to offer. Paolo Olmi, on the podium, drew convincing *italianità* from the orchestra, but the Toscaninian pace he strove for caused occasional audible distress among his sluggish principals. One, Amanda Halgrimson as Leonora, at times contemptuously shut her eyes tightly and arrogated to herself the conductor's responsibility for setting the tempo, but otherwise she turned in a superior performance.

Violeta Urmana, as Azucena, almost stole the evening with a portrayal of vocal and dramatic brilliance. In Kristjan Johannsson, Luciano Pavarotti has an obvious idolator, and the Mediterranean sunshine suffusing his voice belied his Icelandic origins. As Luna, Paolo Coni solidly rounded off a stellar quartet of principals, and Karl Kamper's chorus sang magnificently.

Long before the end, one envisions Neuenfels as the victim of retarded psychological development, a bright but petulant adolescent testing his elders not only with nose-thumbing but also whoopee cushions and the occasional hotfoot. Had Salvatore Cammarano and Giuseppe Verdi, who created this operatic gem, happened to attend this premiere, one could easily imagine one of them knocking Hans Neuenfels down and the other kicking him, along with his equally culpable designer, Reinhard von der Thannen.

BOOKS

THE ART OF DEMOCRACY: A Concise History of Popular Culture in the United States.

By Jim Cullen. 320 pages. $18. Monthly Review Press.

Reviewed by Tim Riley

THIS book has humble aspirations: to provide a general survey of how America defines itself through popular art forms. But it is in fact a far more sophisticated undertaking, an attempt to tell of how class and race permeate every story the United States has ever told about itself. Succinct yet comprehensive, Jim Cullen's "The Art of Democracy" details the U.S. infatuation with pop culture, from colonists' chapbooks to headbangers' videos.

Along the way, Cullen offers piquant interpretations of how the United States' realities clash with its ideals and outlines both U.S. democracy's means and its myths.

Not so much a defense of popular culture as a frank exploration of its implications, his work looks to be a new staple of pop culture chic in the academy.

Within the broad scope of this study, Cullen deftly manages to be as attuned to the cultural expressions of class and race as he is to the forward sweep of industrialization, urbanization and mass consumerism.

Always making subtle distinctions that lift his book above the textbook genre, he repeatedly adjusts his narrative lens with observations that anchor his larger story in telling detail.

Cullen's strength comes from his understanding of how the different strands of American society intertwine in imaginative, unpredictable ways. "If African Americans learned to play the guitar . . ." he writes, "white Americans appropriated the banjo so thoroughly that this originally African instrument is often considered quintessentially white American."

Even on the snarled subject of rock and roll, which most academics flunk, Cullen comes off as insightful. He's well aware that the blues were a product of African American acculturation into white society, an expression that drew on African roots but addressed American circumstances. But he doesn't stop there.

"In the 1960s, Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones self-consciously emulated the gruff singing style of the black Chicago bluesman Howlin' Wolf, who himself reputedly got his name trying to imitate the white country singer Jimmie Rodgers. Rodgers, for his part, drew on 19th-century black traditions and on the English culture that later produced a 20th-century middle-class white youth like Jagger who wanted to sing like a poor black American."

"The Art of Democracy" is divided into two major sections, the first a sweeping map of the 19th century, the second a scan over the 20th. Inevitably, this creates an imbalance, leaving the 20th century somewhat shorted on detail.

As Cullen himself acknowledges, there's much more to tell in our current century, not just about the rapid development of new technologies and how that affects content, but also about the rise of consumption and how that affects content.

But in this slim volume, 30 pages of which are taken up with notes, the modern era whips along as briskly as the last, and less focus is afforded some of the more major occurrences.

Tim Riley, editor of Millennium Pop magazine and author of "Tell Me Why: A Beatles Commentary," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BEST SELLERS

New York Times

This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

FICTION

This Week		Last Weeks	Wks. on List
1	PRIMARY COLORS, by Anonymous	1	8
2	ABSOLUTE POWER, by David Baldacci	5	8
3	THE CELESTINE PROPHECY, by James Redfield	4	109
4	THE HORSE WHISPERER, by Nicholas Evans	2	28
5	THAT CAMDEN SUMMER, by LaVyrle Spencer	3	8
6	AND THIS TOO SHALL PASS, by E. Lynn Harris	7	4
7	IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ENEMY, by Elizabeth George	14	2
8	MCNALLY'S PUZZLE, by Lawrence Sanders	6	3
9	THE RETURN, by William Shatner with Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens		1
10	FIVE DAYS IN PARIS, by Danielle Steele	8	18
11	INTENSITY, by Dean Koontz	10	11
12	MONTANA SKY, by Nora Roberts		1
13	GUILTY AS SIN, by Tami Hoag	9	4
14	THE CAT WHO SAID CHEESE, by Lilian Jackson	11	6
15	ROGUE WARRIOR: TASK FORCE BLUE, by Richard Marcinko and John Weisman	13	4

NONFICTION

1	BLOOD SPORT, by James B. Stewart		1
2	RUSH LIMBAUGH IS A BIG FAT IDIOT, by Al Franken	1	9
3	UNDAUNTED COURAGE, by Stephen E. Ambrose	8	4
4	100 YEARS, 100 STORIES, by George Burns	12	7
5	HOW COULD YOU DO THAT? by Laura Schlessinger	3	8
6	IT TAKES A VILLAGE, by Hillary Rodham Clinton	2	10
7	YOU'LL NEVER MAKE LOVE IN THIS TOWN AGAIN, by Robin, Liza, Linda, and Tiffany, as told to Jennie Louise Frankel, Terrie Maxine Frankel and Joanne Parrent	7	5
8	EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, by Daniel Goleman	6	26
9	MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, by John Berendt	4	100
10	ENTER WHINING, by Fran Drescher	5	5
11	INTO THE WILD, by Jon Krakauer	10	3
12	REASONABLE DOUBTS, by Alan M. Dershowitz	11	2
13	MOUNTAIN, GET OUT OF MY WAY, by Montel Williams with Daniel Paisner		1
14	THE ROAD AHEAD, by Bill Gates with Nathan Myhrvold and Peter Rinearson	9	17
15	LONGITUDE, by Dava Sobel	14	13

ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

1	MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, by John Gray	1	140
2	THE WAY OF THE WIZARD, by Deepak Chopra	2	11
3	THE SEVEN SPIRITUAL LAWS OF SUCCESS, by Deepak Chopra	3	54
4	THE ZONE, by Barry Sears with Bill Lawren	4	4

In this Thursday's
HEALTH/SCIENCE
High-Tech Look at the Dead Sea Scrolls
New method is like working a jigsaw puzzle by computer
Herald International Tribune
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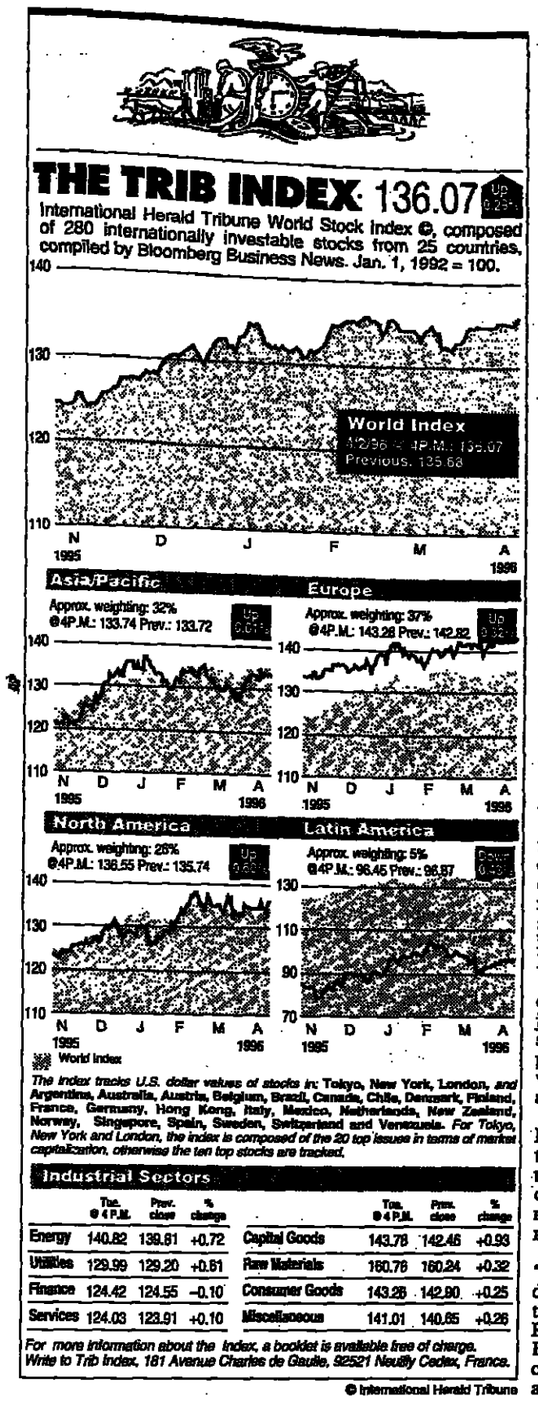
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Herald Tribune INTERNATIONAL

BUSINESS / FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 1996



Bertelsmann Buys Into CLT, Reshaping TV Alliance

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BRUSSELS — Compagnie Luxembourgeoise de Télédiffusion SA was brought into the four-way European digital-television alliance on Tuesday when Bertelsmann AG said it would buy almost half of the broadcaster.

CLT, which had been left stranded by the alliance, will now effectively control the venture that groups Bertelsmann with British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC and the French companies Canal Plus SA and Havas SA. The companies said last month they were setting up a digital pay-television alliance for all of Europe.

The announcement enraged CLT, which had been negotiating a digital deal with BSkyB. "It is very obvious betrayal," Michel Delloye, the chief of CLT, told the French newspaper Le Monde. He was referring to Havas's role because the French company indirectly owns a sizable stake in CLT. "Measures must be taken to deal with the absurd situation which we are now in," he said in Le Monde.

The resolution of the CLT situation means the company will not fall into the competing digital-TV camp led by Kirch Group of Germany. A Kirch spokesman last month would not rule out a partnership with CLT.

The announcement of the deal came from Groupe Bruxelles Lambert in Brussels, which is atop a complex ownership chain in CLT. Groupe Bruxelles Lambert owns 54 percent of a concern called Compagnie Luxembourgeoise Multimédia, in which Havas has a 40 percent interest. CLMM, as that venture is known, owns 97 percent of Compagnie Luxembourgeoise pour l'Audio et la Finance, which is called Audiofina.

Audiofina has 97 percent of CLT. It is forming a 50-50 venture with Bertlesmann to control that stake. In return, Bertelsmann will pay Audiofina about 30 billion Luxembourg francs ($983.9 million) and put the audiovisual assets of its UFA unit into the venture.

CLT has interests in such television companies as the M6 television station in France as well as more than a 40 percent stake in Germany's RTL Television.

UFA's holdings include interests in RTL, RTL2, Vox and Premiere television stations in Germany.

The 30 billion-franc payment by Bertelsmann to Audiofina takes account of the value of 97 percent of CLT not being the same as 100 percent of UFA and the requirement for "a counterbalancing," a Groupe Bruxelles Lambert executive said.

The executive said the deal would bring together the two companies' TV activities in a "copartnership," but the exact corporate and legal structure has not been finalized.

Both companies have been valued, though the valuations are not being released, he said, noting however that the capitalization of CLT through the quoted Audiofina is about 100 billion francs.

Audiofina and Bertelsmann have committed themselves to developing all their TV activities via CLT, which will stay based in Luxembourg, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert said. But the deal will not include Bertelsmann's activities in on-line services, including its European venture with America Online Inc.

The agreement will require approval from the European Commission, the German Cartel Office and the German Media Commission, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert said.

The agreement reached between Audiofina and Bertelsmann came after consultations with Havas and CLMM, the companies said. But CLT executives refused to say whether Canal Plus and BSkyB had been consulted on the agreement.

The agreement covers all the radio, public and subscription TV, analog and digital, production, and TV rights of the two groups, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert said.

It does not cover the present activities of Bertelsmann in print journalism.

(AFX, Bloomberg)

Monetary Institute Urges Budget Cuts

Time Seen Running Out to Get in Shape for Europe's Currency Union

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — In spite of feeble economies and spiraling unemployment, European Union governments that want a common currency by 1999 must pursue rapid spending cuts that are "front-loaded and decisive," the European Monetary Institute urged Tuesday.

"The present economic slowdown in Europe does not provide a justification for postponing necessary consolidation measures," EMI president Alexandre Lamfalussy wrote in the introduction to the EMI annual report.

France, Germany and most other EU nations are struggling to meet the budget-deficit limits for participation in monetary union in spite of warnings that the EMI's bitter medicine would stop any European recovery in its tracks.

France would plunge into a "deep recession" if it cut its budget deeply and quickly enough to meet the criteria by 1997, according to Robert Prior, an economist at HSBC James Capel in London. Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany already warned his countrymen two weeks ago to brace for sharp spending cuts in 1997.

Time is running out for EU nations to tighten their budgets by 1997, the critical year for the selection of first-round participants.

Eddie George, governor of the Bank of England and a member of the EMI Council of 15 EU central bank chiefs, said the economic slowdown would make it difficult for EU nations to meet the treaty's terms by 1997.

Painful as spending cuts might be, other options such as increased social security contributions or deficit spending "are both unacceptable," Mr. Lamfalussy said. Those choices would hamper the economy and worsen unemployment, he said.

The institute, the Frankfurt-based precursor to a proposed European central bank, forecast that EU debt and deficit levels would this year exceed the Maastricht debt limit of 60 percent of GDP and a budget deficit ceiling of no more than 3 percent.

EMI figures showed that the EU's public-sector deficit was 4.7 percent in 1995, more than 1.5 times the Maastricht limit, and that government debt ratios were over 70 percent and rising.

For 1996, deficits in the EU are forecast to fall to 3.8 percent of GDP, while government debt was expected to rise to around 72 percent of GDP.

Deficits have ballooned so rapidly that the figures in the EMI report are already obsolete, Mr. Lamfalussy said.

The EMI council supports Germany's push for a "stability pact" that would force members in the currency zone to abide by strict budget rules after a single currency is launched. Germany wants such a pact to include heavy fines for high-deficit nations.

Mr. Lamfalussy nevertheless saw a "reasonably high probability" of a currency merger by 1999. Increasingly, governments and ordinary citizens recognize the urgency for fiscal reforms. "This is what makes me, in my more optimistic moments, less pessimistic," he said.

Like most government officials, the EMI also predicts that economic growth in Europe will accelerate in the course of the year, "although its timing remains uncertain."

Buffett on Berkshire: New Issue Is Not So Hot

Bloomberg Business News

WASHINGTON — Berkshire Hathaway Inc. filed Tuesday to sell its new class of stock but published a warning by Chairman Warren Buffett that the shares would be overpriced.

Neither Mr. Buffett nor Vice Chairman Charles Munger "would currently buy shares" in Berkshire at its current price, said the filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. "Nor would they recommend that their families or friends do so."

The insurance holding company, which is based in Omaha and is the vehicle for Mr. Buffett's investments in such companies as Coca-Cola Co. and American Express Co., initially plans to sell 100,000 Class B shares. The company said the offering, which is slated to be underwritten by Salomon Brothers Inc., would be increased if necessary to meet investor demand.

Berkshire plans to sell the class B stock for one-30th the price of the company's common shares, which closed Tuesday at $34,000 each, up $100 from Monday. That suggests that the offering would initially raise about $112 million.

Analysts said that the stock sale may be intended to foil outside companies planning to establish vehicles that would enable small investors to invest in Berkshire without putting up the entire price of one of its expensive regular shares.

Moreover, the filing made by Berkshire also said the company had set commissions for securities dealers on the shares at "the lowest commercially reasonable level." This step was taken "so that dealers have less incentive to solicit customers who have not on their own decided to buy shares of Class B common stock."

Berkshire said it had no immediate plans for the use of the proceeds raised through the stock sale. But the company listed several future possibilities, including acquisitions and an increase in the capital of its insurance subsidiaries.

MEDIA MARKETS

Snapple Revamps Its Image

By Stuart Elliott
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A make-or-break campaign meant to improve sales at Snapple Beverage Corp., the upstart beverage-maker that challenged Coca Cola Co. and PepsiCo Inc., will use offbeat humor and glossy production values to try meeting perhaps the most daunting challenge in consumer marketing: attracting mainstream buyers without alienating devoted fans.

The $40 million advertising and promotional campaign, which begins this week, will seek to accomplish that twofold task by celebrating the familiar image of Snapple as a brazen, quirky outfit peddling "the best stuff on earth."

Yet the iced teas, juice drinks and lemonades sold by Snapple, a subsidiary of Quaker Oats Co., will also be billed as the leading alternative to carbonated soft drinks with a semi-serious boast: "Threedom equals freedom." In other words, Snapple would gladly settle for also-ran status behind the colas marketed by Coca-Cola and Pepsico.

"Whether Quaker wants to announce it or not, the Snapple brand is being repositioned," said Tom Pirko, president at Bevmark LLC, a consulting company in New York. "They're beginning to play soft drink, which is what this business is all about."

So wave good-bye to Wendy Kaufman, the so-called Snapple lady who answered consumers' letters in wacky commercials that resembled home movies. In her place will be slick stunts evocative of Coke or Pepsi ads.

The most eye-catching is a commercial using special effects to remake a popular spot from the 1970s featuring "Mikey," the boy who hated everything except Life brand cereal, into a Snapple sales pitch. The campaign, by the longtime Snapple agency, Kirshenbaum Bond & Partners in New York, represents the first significant shift in how Snapple is sold since the brand was bought by Quaker Oats in late 1994. That acquisition, for $1.7 billion, has appeared about as well-timed as buying a British cattle farm last week.

Snapple suffered 1995 losses estimated at $35 million to $40 million as competitors such as Lipton iced teas, marketed by a Pepsico joint-venture with Unilever PLC, and Fruitopia beverages, sold by Coca-Cola, intensified their own sales efforts. Quaker executives said the Snapple slide was reversed only in the last three months.

Worse yet, the field in which Snapple has competed, known as New Age or alternative beverages, has lost momentum as fickle shoppers have returned to soft drinks. "The category has been softening up, so Quaker has quite a row to hoe," said Havis Dawson, editor of Beverage World, a trade publication in Great Neck, New York. "They have an opportunity, but Snapple has lost some brand equity."

Executives at Quaker and Kirshenbaum Bond, offering a preview of the campaign, acknowledged the difficulties they faced. "Would I have liked a better 1995?," asked

See SNAPPLE, Page 17

Gates Adds To Virtual Photo Lode

By Steve Lohr
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Bill Gates has added to his storehouse of images by acquiring the electronic rights to the works of Ansel Adams, the nature photographer and environmentalist.

The licensing deal, announced Tuesday, gives the Microsoft Corp. chairman rights to 2,500 photographs, including stark images of Western vistas that are icons of the American wilderness, through his private company Corbis Corp.

Corbis will have the exclusive right to distribute the photographs electronically for 20 years. Terms were not disclosed, but the Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust will receive a small initial payment, its managing trustee said.

Through Corbis, Mr. Gates bought the Bettmann Archive and its collection of millions of historical photographs last fall. He has also aggressively pursued licensing agreements for the electronic rights for artworks from the National Gallery of London and the Hermitage museum in Russia.



Private banking headquarters of Republic National Bank (Suisse) in Geneva.

At Republic National Bank we believe that hard-earned wealth deserves to be nurtured and preserved. And so we run our bank according to one fundamental principle: to protect our clients' capital as we safeguard its purchasing power.

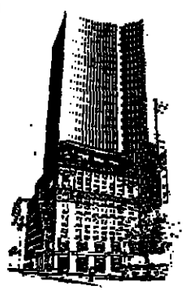
It is a simple principle upon which we base our brand of financial conservatism: private banking built upon rigor, discipline and prudence. This sophisticated

WEALTH THAT TOOK A LIFETIME TO BUILD SHOULD BE TREATED WITH THE PROPER RESPECT.

conservatism, vigorously pursued, has created a global private bank of exceptional stability, capable of weathering the roughest storms.

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World Headquarters of Republic National Bank in New York

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

April 2

	$	£	DM	FF	Lire	¥	BF	SF	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.6585	2.5275	1.1767	0.3282	0.1059*	—	5.444*	1.3893	1.5434*	1.234	1.331*
Brussels	30.47	46.45	21.5525	6.0285	1.9453*	18.372	—	25.5325	0.2837	22.68	24.45*
Frankfurt	1.1927	2.2604	—	0.2934	0.0946*	0.8959	4.0647*	1.3476	1.2403*	1.0988	1.1897*
London (n)	1.5243	—	2.2591	7.7021	2.3881*	25.57	46.618	1.8591	1.6371	2.8642	988.865
Madrid	124.54	190.11	84.086	24.669	7.95*	75.174	4.892	104.401	116.16*	91.826	—
Milan	1,565.68	2,388.95	1,057.65	310.36	—	944.85	51.429	1,311.27	14.573	1,155.39	12.568
New York (b)	—	1.5243n	1.4825	5.0579	1.566.80	1.6895	30.48	1.7955	107.805	1.5327	124.73
Paris	5.9485	7.7025	3.4086	—	0.3223*	3.0403	0.1659	4.2221	4.7864*	3.7245	4.055*
Tokyo	107.50	163.88	73.40	21.52	6.686	64.82	3.5292	91.87	—	79.37	8.6821
Toronto	1.3557	2.0652	0.9142	0.2681	0.0844*	0.817	0.4449*	1.1793	1.261*	—	1.1069*
Zurich	1.1935	1.8204	0.8065	0.2364	0.0743*	0.7208	2.9211*	—	1.1117*	0.8818	0.9579*
1 ECU	1.28	0.939	1.3958	6.4822	2.0305.15	2.2206	38.9575	1.3369	137.306	1.7351	159.363
1 SDR	1.4584	0.9557	2.158	7.6342	2.287.83	2.4177	44.401	1.7391	156.924	1.9757	181.429

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris and Zurich; fixings in other centers and Toronto rates at 2 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	1.00	Greek drac.	240.77	Mex. peso	7.4975	S. Afr. rand	4.002
Australian $	1.2983	Hong Kong $	7.7231	N. Zealand $	1.4613	S. Kor. won	780.20
Austrian sch.	10.408	Hung. forint	147.04	Norw. krone	6.4169	Swed. krona	6.6708
Brazil real	0.985	Indian rupee	33.93	Phil. peso	26.18	Taiwan $	27.23
Chinese yuan	8.3539	Indo. rupiah	2338.18	Polish zloty	2.59	Thai baht	25.26
Czech koruna	27.29	Irish £	0.6362	Port. escudo	152.61	Turkish lira	71149.5
Danish krone	5.7148	Israeli shek.	3.1085	Russ ruble	4876.00	UAE dirham	3.671
E. Egypt. pound	3.395	Kuw dinar	0.299	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. bolfv.	484.00
Fin. markka	4.8255	Malay. ring.	2.5263	Sing.$	1.4045		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5248	1.5241	1.5234	Japanese yen	106.75	106.34	105.90
Canadian dollar	1.3549	1.3555	1.3557	Swiss franc	1.1885	1.1846	1.1814
Deutsche mark	1.4778	1.4753	1.4727				

*Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Rom); Agence France-Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); *(SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.*
Tlg)

Eurocurrency Deposits

April 2

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5⅛ - 5⅛	3⅛ - 3⅜	1⅛ - 1¼	6 - 6⅛	3⅜ - 4⅛	⅛ - ¼	4⅛ - 4¼
3-month	5⅛ - 5⅛	3⅛ - 3⅜	1⅛ - 1⅜	5⅝ - 6⅛	4 - 4⅛	⅛ - ¼	4⅛ - 4⅜
6-month	5⅛ - 5¼	3⅛ - 3⅛	1⅛ - 1⅜	6⅛ - 6⅜	4⅛ - 4⅜	⅛ - ¼	4⅛ - 4⅜
1-year	5⅛ - 5¼	3⅛ - 3⅞	3⅛ - 3⅝	6⅛ - 6⅝	4⅛ - 4⅜	¼ - ⅜	4⅛ - 4⅝

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev	Britain		
Discount rate	5.00	5.00	Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Prime rate	8¼	8¼	Call money	5⅝	6.00
Federal funds	5⅛	5.50	1-month interbank	6.00	6.00
3-month CDs	4.97	4.97	3-month interbank	6⅛	6⅛
CP 180 days direct	4.11	4.11	6-month interbank	6⅛	6⅛
3 month Treasury bill	5.02	5.01	10-year Gilt	8.04	8.09
1-year Treasury bill	5.11	5.11			
2-year Treasury bill	5.70	5.73	France		
5-year Treasury note	5.99	6.06	Intervention rate	3.80	3.80
7-year Treasury note	6.09	6.15	Call money	3⅝	3⅝
10-year Treasury note	6.23	6.28	1-month interbank	3⅝	3⅝
30-year Treasury bond	6.60	6.64	3-month interbank	4.00	4⅛
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.79	4.80	6-month interbank	4⅛	4⅛
			10-year OAT	6.50	6.53
Japan					
Discount rate	0.50	0.50	*Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.*		
Call money	0.44	0.45			
1-month interbank	0.63	0.63			
3-month interbank	0.63	0.63			
6-month interbank	0.75	0.75			
10-year Govt bond	2.75	2.73			
Germany					
Lombard rate	5.00	5.00			
Call money	3.42	3.45			
1-month interbank	3.37	3.37			
3-month interbank	3.35	3.35			
6-month interbank	3.38	3.38			
10-year Bund	6.34	6.38			

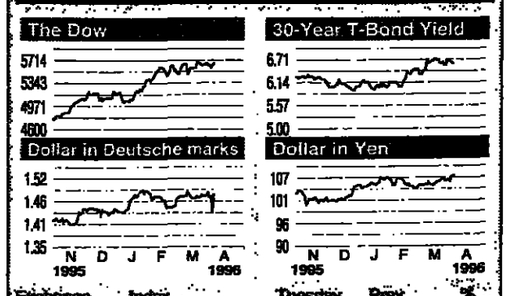
Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	394.65	394.65	+0.15
London	394.35	394.35	+0.15
New York	398.00	396.60	−1.10

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings: Zurich and New York opening and closing prices: New York Comex Close.)
Source: Reuters.

THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Tuesday @4PM	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	5669.13	5637.72	+0.56
NYSE	S&P 500	655.27	653.73	+0.24
NYSE	S&P 100	632.86	630.80	+0.32
NYSE	Composite	351.69	350.94	+0.19
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1110.77	1106.57	+0.38
AMEX	Market Value	572.85	572.44	+0.04
Toronto	TSE Index	5022.38	4994.27	+0.57
São Paulo	Bovespa	49656.67	50092.76	-0.47
Mexico City	Bolsa	3877.68	3911.51	-1.09
Buenos Aires	Merval	518.21	513.76	+0.47
Santiago	IPSA General	5291.68	5292.19	-0.01
Caracas	Capital General	N.A.	3339.97	

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters — International Herald Tribune

Apple Plans Return to Its Core

By John Markoff
New York Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple Computer Inc. may be preparing to extract itself from the computer-industry price wars.

Apple's new chairman and chief executive, Gilbert F. Amelio, is planning to return the embattled computer maker to a strategy of setting itself apart from the rest of the personal-computer industry by trying to develop machines so reliable and sought after that customers willingly pay premium prices, according to employees who have attended meetings with him.

For the last three years, Apple had adopted a strategy of competing directly on price with makers of personal computers based on chips from Intel Corp. and operating systems from Microsoft Corp., which dominate the market.

An electronic-mail message circulated by a member of Apple's technical staff who attended one of what the writer termed kaffeeklatsches last month reported that Mr. Amelio had sketched out a blueprint in which he described Apple as the Maglite of computers. Maglite is a flashlight brand with a reputation for being far sturdier, and more expensive, than most competitors.

The report was distributed last week to an Internet mailing list for Apple employees, software developers, and enthusiasts of Apple's Macintosh computer. Mr. Amelio told the group that Apple simply could not compete dollar-for-dollar with PC makers, because of the high research costs it incurs by pursuing its own hardware and software standards.

It was through price cuts, in an effort to gain market share, that Apple last year ran into the problems that led to the ouster of its former chief executive, Michael Spindler, in early February. Mr. Amelio, who left his job as chief executive of National Semiconductor Corp. to replace Mr. Spindler, announced last week that Apple would post a loss of $700 million for the quarter that just ended.

Mr. Amelio had asked the public and media for 100 days on the job to prepare a turnaround strategy. But in his kaffeeklatsches, according to the E-mail, he has already been describing a plan to position Apple as the maker of a desirable, higher-value computer.

An Apple spokesman, Nancy Paxton, said his remarks should not be construed as an all-encompassing strategy statement. "He was sharing thoughts about what we need to do as a company in getting back to our roots," she said.

IBM Paces Blue Chips, But Other Techs Lag

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — A surge by International Business Machines, coupled with rising pharmaceutical and oil stocks, powered blue-chip issues Tuesday, more than making up for a decline among many smaller technology issues.

In late trading, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 31.43 points, at 5,669.15. But had IBM not risen, the index would have posted only a quarter of that advance. Indeed, advancing issues outnumbered decliners by only a 12-to-11 ratio on the Big Board.

A Lehman Brothers analyst helped trigger IBM's advance by telling clients that the Dow component had shipped 80 percent more computing power in its mainframe business in the first quarter, significantly above his earlier estimate of 45 percent.

Growth of that magnitude should lift IBM's profits in the first quarter, leaving plenty of room for its shares to rise, Lehman said, as it reiterated its "strong buy" recommendation, the brokerage's highest rating.

Other technology issues were not as lucky, with FileNet and Softdesk falling the most.

Shares in FileNet, the maker of computer scanning systems, tumbled after it reported a first-quarter loss because of weak sales and acquisition-related charges. Softdesk lost nearly half its share value after the publisher of design software for engineers warned that first-quarter earnings would fall significantly below estimates.

Such declines limited gains in the technology-heavy Nasdaq, with its composite index up only 4.73 points, at 1,111.30.

Lycos shares helped prop up the index by surging in their first day of trading, as investors bet on the company's software to search the Internet. Lycos is the first of three makers of such programs expected to sell shares in the coming weeks. The company was one of the most actively traded issues on the Nasdaq.

The Dow had gains among oil issues to bolster it, as crude prices jumped as much as 52 cents, to $22.78 a barrel, and gasoline futures surged to a four-year high.

Among the gaining stocks were Chevron, Mobil and Amoco.

Drugmakers rose on expectations that such companies as Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson, both of which rose, would be able to meet or exceed earnings estimates no matter how slow or fast the economy grows.

Just how fast the economy is growing became an issue again when the Commerce Department revised fourth-quarter growth downward to 0.5 percent from 0.9 percent while the Conference Board reported that its index of leading indicators had risen 1.3 percent in February — the biggest monthly gain in 20 years.

The data left the bond market uncertain, and largely unmoved, as they gave no clear sign as to whether the Federal Reserve Board would be more or less likely to lower interest rates.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury was up 12/32 points, at 92 7/32, in late trading, which lowered its yield to 6.60 percent from 6.63 percent Monday.

The economy is "back to a slow-growth or no-growth mode," stated Bill Allyn of Jefferies & Co., "and inflation is certainly in check."

Goldman, Sachs concluded that a rate cut was unlikely, and so it lowered its investment opinion on a dozen companies linked to homebuilding and furnishing. The resulting sectorwide slump, further fueled by other analysts' downgradings, trampled such stocks as Kaufman, Armstrong, Ethan Allen, Black & Decker and Centex.

Retail stocks fell after a survey showed little change in sales in the last week of March. Wal-Mart, Federated, Dillar and Nordstrom led the decliners.

(Bloomberg, AP, Knight-Ridder)

U.S. STOCKS

Investors Approve Teledyne Deal

By John Holusha
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Shares in Teledyne Inc. rose Tuesday in the wake of a merger agreement with Allegheny Ludlum Corp., a move by Teledyne aimed at thwarting the hostile-takeover efforts of WHX Corp.

Teledyne, which makes specialty metals used in the aviation industry and consumer products, and Allegheny Ludlum, the largest U.S. producer of stainless steel, announced an all-stock merger on Monday valued at $3.3 billion. The deal was based on 176 million shares in the new Allegheny Teledyne Corp. and the $19 closing price of Allegheny Ludlum's stock Monday.

On Tuesday, Teledyne shares closed at $33.375, up $1.50, while Allegheny Ludlum shares were down $1, at $18.

WHX had planned to conduct a proxy fight to take control of the Teledyne board, which rejected WHX's most recent takeover proposal of $1.78 billion in February. A similar fight last year gained a board seat for Ronald LaBow, the chairman of WHX, whose principal subsidiary is Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Co.

WHX and Allegheny Ludlum are both steelmakers, but Allegheny is in the premium end of the business, while WHX produces lower-priced, commodity-grade products, primarily carbon steels.

Growth Data Give Dollar a Lift

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against most other major currencies Tuesday after the release of U.S. economic reports suggesting continued growth.

The dollar closed at 1.4835 Deutsche marks, virtually unchanged from Monday's close, and at 107.605 yen, up from 107.555 yen. The dollar rose to 1.1955 Swiss francs from 1.1946 francs and to 5.0579 French francs from 5.0540 francs. The pound fell to $1.5243 from $1.5245.

The dollar came in for some selling in Tokyo, but New York traders reversed the losses after the Conference Board reported that the index of leading economic indicators rose 1.3 percent in February, the largest monthly gain in 20 years. The index forecasts economic activity for the ensuing six months.

The government's gross domestic product report showed the economy grew at a 0.5 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter, putting growth for all of 1995 at 2 percent.

The figures lend credence to analysts who say the economy is strong enough to dissuade the Federal Reserve Board from cutting interest rates again soon.

Trading was cautious before the release Friday of March employment data, dealers and analysts said, with currency traders waiting to find out if February's 705,000 increase in jobs — twice what was expected — will be repeated.

(Bloomberg, AFP)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

To Our Readers

Because of the seven-hour time difference between New York and Paris until April 7, the U.S. stock tables, the U.S. futures and some other items in this edition reflect prices at 2 p.m. in New York.

This change is necessary to meet distribution requirements. Most editions will again carry closing prices after April 8, when Daylight Saving Time begins in the United States.

Very briefly:

U.S. Economy Grew 2% in 1995

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy grew just 2 percent last year, the smallest advance since the last recession and weaker than a previous estimate at 2.1 percent, but signs are emerging of a modest rebound as the winter ends, according to data released on Tuesday.

The index of leading economic indicators, a gauge of future economic activity, rose sharply in February as businesses affected by the January blizzard brought workers back on the job. The Conference Board, a New York business research group that compiles the index, said it climbed 1.3 percent.

Regarding gross domestic product, the 1995 performance was the most anemic since the economy actually shrank 1 percent in 1991. The GDP had surged 3.5 percent in 1994.

- **Pennzoil Co.** said it would sell its 50 percent stake in a Caspian Sea oil project to **Itochu Corp.**'s Itochu Oil Exploration Co. Ltd. unit for about $132 million in cash.
- **Chevron Corp.** and **Texaco Inc.** said they would report second-quarter gains from the sale of their **Caltex Petroleum Corp.** venture's stake in a Japanese refiner. Each received $550 million after Caltex sold its 50 percent interest in **Nippon Petroleum Refining Co.** to **Nippon Oil Co.** for $2 billion.
- **Hibernia Corp.** said it reached a definitive agreement to buy **CM Bank Holding Co.** for $201.7 million in cash.
- **PepsiCo Inc.**, unveiling a $500 million marketing campaign, said it would swap its red, white and blue can for a royal blue one in 24 countries to distinguish itself from **Coca-Cola Co.** in overseas markets.

Reuters, Knight-Ridder

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, April 2
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

North and Latin American stocks show pre-closing prices this week following the beginning of summer time in Europe, until other this weekend when summer time begins on the American continent.

Amsterdam

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	83.30	82.40	82.70	82.90
Aegon	80.80	79.90	80.60	80.70
Ahold	84.90	82.10	82.30	84.10
Akzo Nobel	184.30	182.70	183	184.50
Bols Wess cva	32.10	31.70	31.90	32.10
CSM cva	79.70	77.10	79.70	78.60
Dordtsche Pet	249.50	245.30	249.50	246
DSM	159.30	157.60	158.60	157.80
Elsevier	25.40	25.20	25.40	25.30
Fortis Amev	123.80	120.30	120.60	122.20
G-Broc cva	54.30	53.40	53.60	54.20
Hagemeyer	115.80	113.40	114	114.40
Heineken	368.50	360	362.40	366.20
Hoogovens	59.40	58.30	59	59.50
Hunt Douglas	115.40	110	111	113
ING cva	122.20	120.60	120.80	122.10
KLM	58.60	57.70	58.50	57.90
KNP BT	43.10	41.80	42.70	42.20
KPN	66.90	64.90	66.40	65.30
Nedfloyd Gp	34.50	33.70	33.70	34.30
Nutricia	179.40	174.60	175.90	175.70
Oce Grinten	167.50	157.10	157.10	163.80
Pakhoed	44	42.20	42.30	44
Philips Elec	59.40	58.20	59.30	59.20
Polygram	99.80	96.40	99.80	99.10
Ramstead Hdg	100	96.10	97.80	99.10
Rodamco	124.50	119.80	123.50	124
Rodamco	47.20	46.60	47	47
Rolinco	133.60	133.20	133.20	132.60
Rorento	94.70	94.70	94.70	94.50
Royal Dutch	236.80	234.50	236.80	233.70
Stork	47	46.50	46.70	47
Unilever cva	226.10	224.90	225.60	224.60
VNU	27.70	27.20	27.50	27.50
Wolters Kl cva	185.90	183.10	183.70	184

EOE Index: 537.49
Previous: 537.28

Bangkok

Adv Info Svc	492	478	490	476
Bangkok Bk F	356	344	350	342
Krung Thai Bk	126	120	125	122
PTT Explor	318	308	314	308
Siam Cement F	1324	1276	1318	1270
Telecomasia	70.50	69	70.50	69.50
Thai Airways	57	55.50	57	55.50
Thai Farm Bk F	302	296	300	298
Thai Telephone	91	89.50	90	91
Utd Comm	354	344	354	344

SET Index: 1298.86
Previous: 1293.67

Market Closed

The stock market in Bombay was closed Monday for a holiday.

Brussels

Arbed	3330	3310	3330	3345
Barco Ind	4280	4220	4250	4220
BBL	5850	5700	5800	5700
Bekaert	26900	26200	26800	26575
CBR	12250	12200	12250	12205
CMB	2485	2450	2460	2485
Cockerill	175	173	173	173
Colruyt	10325	10050	10525	10175
Delhaize Lion	1338	1318	1356	1320
Electrabel	6940	6840	6930	6890
Electrafina	2895	2860	2895	2865
Fortis AG	3965	3900	3925	3915
GIB	1400	1376	1390	1380
GBL	4050	4015	4025	4030
Gen Banque	10925	10875	10900	10900
Glaverbel	3725	3640	3690	3630
Kredietbank	8440	8400	8440	8430
Mosane	2140	2140	2140	2150
Petrofina	8920	8830	8920	8890
Powerfin	3935	3900	3920	3935
Recticel	315	307	307	320
Royale Belge	6400	6280	6400	6300
Soc Gen Belg	2445	2380	2430	2380
Solvay	17700	17325	17675	17550
Tessenderlo	13250	13000	13250	13200
Tractebel	12550	12350	12550	12500
UCB	52950	51950	52950	51850
Union Miniere	2245	2205	2245	2210

Stock Exchange index: 8816.15
Previous: 8712.59

Copenhagen

Carlsberg B	334	325	332.50	331
Danisco	294	291	297	296.75
Den Danske Bk	364	350	363	361
D/S Svendborg A	178000	175736	178000	177000
D/S 1912 A	123000	121617	123000	123000
East Asiatic Co	123	118	121	120
FLS Ind B	540	540	540	550
ISS Int'l Svc B	161	158	160	161
Nvo Nordisk B	730	724	728	727
Radiometer B	411	409	410	410
Sophus Ber B	688	684	685	690
Tele Danmk B	298	292	293	299
Unidanmark A	260	257	258	259

Stock Market Index: 386.84
Previous: 384.86

Frankfurt

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB	845	845	840	840
AEG	161	160	160.50	161.50
Allianz Hdg	2788	2770	2784	2779
Altana	970	955	957	970.50
Asko Deutsche	915	905	910	917
Bodenwerk	505	505	510	510
BASF	413.50	410	412.50	400.50
Bayer Hypo Bk	36.75	36.52	36.65	36.42
Bay Vereinsbank	44.10	43.75	44	43.55
Bayer	503.80	499.60	503.70	498.50
Berliner Kraft	421	411	416.50	406
BHF Bank	40.20	39.70	40.20	40
BMW	788	770	786	783.50
CKAG Colonia	1100	1095	1100	1098
Commerzbank	338.80	337.70	338.50	338
Daimler Benz	799	794.50	798	800.10
Degussa	546	539.90	539.90	536
Deutsche Bank	74.70	74.32	74.70	74.75
Dresdner Bank	40.02	39.85	40	39.70
Heidelbg Zmt	975	975	975	980
Henkel	550.50	543.50	543.50	546
Hochtief	623	612	612	605
Hoechst	528.30	524.50	528.30	521
Holzmann Ph.	565	562	565	570
Karstadt	549	543.50	543.50	548
Kaufhof Hdg	477	475	477	479.50
Linde	926	922	922	918
Lufthansa ord	239	235.30	236.30	235.80
MAN	406.50	404	405	404
Mannesmann	543.50	538	541.50	537.80
Muench Rueck	3120	3100	3105	3115
Preussag	411	409.70	411	408
PWA	213	210	211.50	213
RWE	59.45	59.25	59.34	59.25
SAP pfd	200	194	195.50	202
Schering	117.60	116.80	117.30	117
Schmalb Lob	222	220	220.50	227
Siemens	813	806.50	812.80	811.20
Steinkuecker	720	719.50	720	717
Thyssen	270.20	267.50	270.20	266.20
Veba	73.40	72.90	73.40	72.57
VEW	497	492	497	492
Viag	611	601.50	611	593.50
Volkswagen	525.80	524	525	522
Wella	715	711	712	710

DAX Index: 2501.22
Previous: 2489.89

Helsinki

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor I	211	208	209	211
Enso-Gutzeit R	33.50	32.80	33	33.50
Huhtamaki IF	146	146	146	148
Kesko	58.20	58	58	58.20
Kone BF	480	475	477	480
Kymmene F	128.50	127.50	127.90	128.80
Merita A	10.80	10.60	10.70	10.80
Metra BF	181	180	180	182
Metso-Serla B	143	141	141.40	145
Nokia Pref F	157	155	156.70	158.50
Outokumpu A	79	77	77.10	76.50
Rautaruukki	32.30	31.20	31.80	33.90
Repola	91.50	91	91.10	91.70
Stockmann A	239	239	239	240
Valmet A	106	105	105.90	107

HEX General Index: 1814.55
Previous: 1831.07

Hong Kong

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	9.05	8.85	9.05	8.80
Bk East Asia	27	26.25	26.80	26.15
Cathay Pacific	13.65	13.55	13.55	13.65
Cheung Kong	54.25	55.50	54.25	54.75
China Light	35.80	35	35.80	34.90
Chin Estates	6.95	6.90	6.95	6.95
Citic Pacific	30.70	30.20	30.60	29.95
Cons Elec Pwr	12.90	12.65	12.80	12.80
Cons Hong Bk	32.40	32.50	32.50	32.90
First Pacific	10.70	10.50	10.60	10.70
Great Eagle	23.20	22.70	23.20	22.80
Guangdong Inv	5.10	4.95	5.10	4.95
Guoco Group	42.90	42.30	42.80	42.40
Hang Lung	14.90	14.35	14.85	14.80
Hang Seng Bk	78.25	77.50	78	77
Henderson Inv	7.10	7.05	7.10	7.05
Henderson Ld	54.75	53.25	54.75	53.75
HKR Int'l	8.65	8.60	8.65	8.60
HK Aircraft	20.55	20.30	20.55	20.40
HK China Gas	15.60	15.45	15.55	15.40
HK Electric	25.50	25.05	25.45	24.90
HK Shang Hts	12.75	12.40	12.75	12.60
HK Telecomm	15.40	15.40	15.40	15.40
Hongkong Land	4.75	4.45	4.70	4.60
HSBC Hdgs	118.50	117.50	118.50	116.50
Hutchison Wh	49.40	48.60	49.30	48.60
Hysan Dev	25.50	25	25.20	24.75
Johnson El 500	14.45	14.05	14.45	14
Miramar Hotel	17.05	16.30	17	16.30
Nat'l Mutual	7.30	7.25	7.30	7.30
New World	37	36.50	36.90	36.30
Oriental Press	3.53	3.43	3.52	3.50
Orient Telecom	2.53	2.50	2.53	2.50
Shangri-La	10.65	10.40	10.65	10.40
SHK Props	79	78.25	79	78.25
Sun Tak Hdgs	5.65	5.45	5.60	5.45
Sino Land Co.	8.05	7.65	8.05	7.65
Sth China Post	5.10	4.95	5.10	5
Swire Pac A	68.75	67.50	68.50	67.25
Tsim Sha Tsui	9.15	8.80	9.15	8.80
TV Broadcasts	28.25	27.85	28	28
Wharf Hdgs	29.60	29	29.60	28.90
Wheelock	15.50	15.25	15.40	15.10

Hang Seng Index: 11144.68
Previous: 10926.80

Jakarta

Astra Int'l	2850	2825	2825	2850
Bank Pacific	2350	2300	2300	2350
Gedang Garm	30100	29500	29700	29250
Indah Kiat	1850	1725	1750	1800
Indocement	8650	8600	8600	8650
Indofood	10900	10850	10900	10850
Indonyzon	2400	2375	2375	2400
Indosat	8175	7900	7950	8000
Kalbe Farma	7025	6975	7025	7025
Sampoerna	24500	24375	24400	24400

Composite Index: 508.27
Previous: 507.60

Johannesburg

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	255	254.50	254.50	255
AngloAm Gold	409	407	409	407
AngloAm Ind	192	192	192	191
Barlow	50.75	50.75	50.75	51
C.G. Smith	25	25	25	25.50
De Beers	122.75	121.50	122.25	122
Driefontein	63.30	62.50	62.50	62.75
Freegold	38	37.75	38	37.75
Fst Nat'l Bk	33.50	33.50	33.50	33.50
Gencor	15.60	15.50	15.50	15.60
GFSA	138	138	138	138
Iscor	3.76	3.73	3.76	3.74
Johnnies Ind	56.50	56.50	56.50	56.50
Kloof Gold	50	49.50	49.50	49.50
Liberty Life	123	123	123	123
Nedcor	60.50	60.50	60.50	60.50
Rembrandt Gp	35.50	35.50	35.50	35.50
Richemont	59.75	59.25	59.60	59.25
Rust Platinum	70	70	70	69
SA Breweries	125.50	125.50	125.50	126
Sappi	54	54	54	54.50
Sasol	38.90	38.50	38.90	38.60
SBIC	180	180	180	180
Tiger Oats	62	62	62	62

All Market Index: 6699.82
Previous: 6710.78

Kuala Lumpur

Genting	23.10	22.60	22.70	22.50
Hicom Hldgs	6.20	6.05	6.15	6.20
Mal Banking	23.90	23.60	23.60	23.60
Mal Intl Ship F	7.35	7.25	7.30	7.15
Public Bank F	7.15	7.10	7.15	7.10
Resorts World	14.70	14.20	14.50	14.10
Sime Darby	7	6.85	6.95	6.95
Telekom Mal	24	23.50	23.70	24
Tenaga	10.80	10.60	10.70	10.70
Utd Engineers	17.60	17.40	17.60	17.50

Composite Index: 1153.22
Previous: 1158.44

London

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Nat'l	5.82	5.61	5.63	5.70
Allied Domecq	5	4.74	4.96	4.93
Anglian Water	5.96	5.72	5.90	5.93
Argyll Group	3.12	3.08	3.10	3.10
Arjo Wiggins	2.04	1.99	2.02	2.01
Asda Group	1.08	1.06	1.07	1.07
Assoc Br Foods	4.82	3.96	3.97	4.01
BAA	5.37	5.26	5.34	5.38
Barclays	7.32	7.22	7.25	7.26
Boots	7.63	7.49	7.63	7.57
BAT Ind	5.09	4.76	4.92	4.77
Bank Scotland	2.51	2.49	2.47	2.42
BICC	3.44	3.32	3.43	3.31
Blue Circle	3.49	3.43	3.45	3.46
BOC Group	8.94	8.88	8.85	8.87
Boots	6.01	5.95	5.95	5.97
Bowater	3.91	3.81	3.83	3.86
BPB Ind	3.14	3.07	3.10	3.10
Brit Aerosp	8.78	8.58	8.70	8.73
Brit Airways	5.50	5.36	5.36	5.41
Brit Gas	2.36	2.27	2.35	2.28
Brit Petrol	4.98	4.78	4.93	4.74
Brit Steel	1.99	1.93	1.97	1.94
Brit Telecom	3.88	3.73	3.75	3.82
BTR	3.39	3.15	3.17	3.21
Burmah Cast	10.73	10.57	10.62	10.63
Cable Wireless	5.42	5.18	5.28	5.32
Cadbury Schw	4.96	4.87	4.89	4.90
Caradon	2.10	2.02	2.07	2.03
Carlton Comm	4.71	4.60	4.62	4.63
Coats Viyella	2.06	2.01	2.01	2.03
Comm Union	6.87	6.75	6.83	6.74
Courtaulds	4.43	4.36	4.36	4.38
De La Rue	7.20	7.11	7.13	7.12
Eng China Cl	2.96	2.90	2.92	2.97
Enterprise Oil	4.58	4.42	4.46	4.49
Ferr Colonial	1.60	1.51	1.51	1.53
Forte	3.47	3.47	3.47	3.48
Gen'l Accident	6.34	6.16	6.22	6.17
GEC	3.70	3.64	3.68	3.65
GKN	9.80	9.60	9.77	9.63
Glaxo	9.26	9.11	9.17	9.12
Grenada Gp	7.82	7.58	7.77	7.61
Grand Met	4.26	4.20	4.24	4.21
GRE	2.33	2.18	2.29	2.21
Guinness	4.72	4.66	4.68	4.68
GUS	6.81	6.68	6.68	6.75
Hanson	1.95	1.91	1.91	1.92
Hillsdown Hdg	1.86	1.70	1.78	1.83
HSBC Hdgs	10.05	9.95	9.97	9.97
ICI	9.37	9.08	9.08	9.21
Inchcape	3.02	2.87	2.92	2.87
Kingfisher	5.65	5.58	5.58	5.63
Ladbroke	1.94	1.88	1.91	1.88
Land Sec	6.31	6.20	6.25	6.31
Lasmo	1.17	1.11	1.11	1.15
Legal Gen'l Grp	1.87	1.84	1.84	1.85
Lloyds Abbey	7.14	6.84	6.91	6.86
Lloyds TSB Gp	5.46	5.39	5.43	5.42
London Elec	7.64	7.41	7.46	7.43
Lucas Ind	2.18	2.15	2.15	2.17
Marks Spencer	4.26	4.21	4.21	4.22
MEPC	5.07	4.91	4.97	4.97
Mercury Asset	8.91	8.81	8.85	8.84
Midlands Elec	3.95	3.87	3.88	3.90
Nat'l Power	4.88	4.72	4.84	4.78
NatWest	6.47	6.36	6.43	6.41
News Int'l	6.55	6.35	6.35	6.52
Utd Utilities	6.53	6	6.02	6.09
Nthern Foods	1.84	1.79	1.80	1.80
P&O	5.50	5.30	5.30	5.31
Pearson	6.80	6.58	6.60	6.72
Pilkington	2.15	2.08	2.09	2.13
Powergreen	5.55	5.35	5.43	5.36
Prudential	4.51	3.95	4.42	4.31
Rank Org	5.19	4.96	5.08	4.96
Reckitt Colm	6.72	6.63	6.65	6.65
Redland	2.98	2.87	2.90	2.90
Reed Int'l	11.33	11.23	11.23	11.26
Rentokil	3.65	3.57	3.57	3.62
Reuters Hdgs	7.37	7.18	7.22	7.24
RMC Group	10.07	9.86	9.97	9.88
Rolls Royce	2.18	2.13	2.18	2.16
Royal Bk Scot	5.88	4.97	5	5.04
RTZ reg	9.64	9.43	9.47	9.53
Royal Insur	3.67	3.55	3.65	3.55
Salnsbury	3.72	3.65	3.66	3.69
Schroders	12.10	11.95	12.10	12.03
Scot Newcastle	6.45	6.41	6.44	6.42
Scot Power	3.52	3.46	3.50	3.48
Sears	1.01	0.98	1	0.98
Severn Trent	5.97	5.90	5.90	5.98
Shell Trsp reg	8.48	8.38	8.45	8.39
Siebe	8.99	8.88	8.95	8.90
Smiths Nephew	1.88	1.84	1.85	1.84
Smiths (W H)	4.50	4.43	4.47	4.46
SmithKline cl A	6.87	6.49	6.84	6.65
Stmths Ind	7.05	6.97	7.03	6.97
Sthern Elec	8.80	8.68	8.70	8.73
Stand Charter	6.26	6.11	6.13	6.17
Sun Alliance	3.75	3.57	3.62	3.57
Tate & Lyle	4.90	4.83	4.86	4.90
Tesco	2.69	2.63	2.66	2.67
Thames Water	5.78	5.68	5.71	5.72
Thorn EMI	18.45	16.99	18.40	17.03
TI Group	4.82	4.28	4.32	4.30
TI Group	5.14	4.94	5.05	5
Tomkins	2.65	2.54	2.58	2.54
Unilever	12.22	11.83	12.02	12.15
Utd Biscuits	2.42	2.33	2.40	2.33
Utd News	6.47	6.20	6.43	6.40
Vendome uts	5.84	5.70	5.70	5.70
Vodafone	2.57	2.47	2.55	2.49
Whitbread	6.94	6.82	6.94	6.81
Williams Hdgs	3.25	3.16	3.19	3.22
Wolseley	4.47	4.39		

EUROPE

BMW Must Raise Vehicle Production To Bolster Earnings

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MUNICH — Bernd Pischetsrieder, chief executive of Bayerische Motoren Werke AG, said on Tuesday that he was "aiming for a better result" in 1996 after better exchange rates and strong sales of luxury-class models boosted sales 2 percent in the first quarter.

Growth this year depends largely on BMW's ability to stretch its production capacity for new models, he said. So far this year, the new 5-series cannot be supplied in all versions and is not available outside Europe, he noted. The Z-3 roadster, being made at the new plant in Spartanburg, South Carolina, is completely sold out, he added.

"It is a question of capacity more than anything else, and the capacity is limited," said Chief Financial Officer Volker Doppelfeld.

"During the first quarter of 1996 it was not possible to supply the extremely successful 5-series in all of its variations and in particular not for important foreign markets," Mr. Pischetsrieder said.

Including the company's Rover unit in Britain, sales rose to 11.50 billion Deutsche marks ($7.75 billion) in the first three months of 1996 from 11.27 billion DM in the year-earlier period.

"For 1996 as a whole, we expect an increase over 1995 in production and sales for both BMW and Rover," Mr. Pischetsrieder said.

Mr. Doppelfeld said he expected "single-digit" growth in sales and production of BMW and Rover models this year.

As previously reported, 1995 net profit fell 0.7 percent, to 692 million DM, a smaller decline than forecast, as earnings were buoyed by cost-cutting. Sales last year rose 9.5 percent, to 46.14 billion DM.

Last year profit was burdened by "unique" costs related to Rover and to a new jet engine for the BMW-Rolls-Royce PLC joint venture, Mr. Pischetsrieder said.

Although the company is off to a slow start with production and deliveries in the first quarter, Mr. Pischetsrieder said that this was a temporary problem caused by the introduction of new models.

The company said first-quarter car deliveries fell 1 percent, to 265,200 cars, and production dropped 6 percent, to 284,900.

Production of BMW models sank 9 percent, to 152,500 cars, and deliveries fell 6 percent, to 143,600 cars. At Rover, meanwhile, production dropped 3 percent, to 132,400 vehicles, while aggressive new model launches helped deliveries gain 5 percent, to 121,600 cars.

Mr. Pischetsrieder said that he feared a new German tax on company cars would erode sales of top-of-the-line luxury models, which helped the first-quarter sales grow while delivery volumes were down. In the first two months of this year, registrations of luxury cars sank 20 percent in Germany.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Ciba to Sell Toledo, Canceling Spin-Off

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BASEL — Ciba-Geigy AG said Tuesday that it would sell its Mettler-Toledo AG unit to the privately held AEA Investors Inc. for 919 million Swiss francs ($769.0 million), canceling its public-offering plans for the maker of scales.

Mettler-Toledo, the world's largest weighing-systems manufacturer, had 1995 sales of 1 billion Swiss francs. "While pursuing the initial public offering plans, we were approached by various interested parties," said Patrick Kaiser, a Ciba spokesman. "AEA Investors' long-term investment strategy convinced us that this is the best solution for the company."

Ciba said that Mettler-Toledo, with operations in roughly 100 countries, would retain its headquarters in Switzerland and its existing management team. The company's research and production activities are concentrated in Switzerland, Germany, the United States and China.

Ciba's decision came after the company said last October that it would spin off Mettler-Toledo in an initial public offering in order to focus on its drugs and chemicals businesses. Analysts, who had expected Ciba to generate as much as 1.2 billion francs in the initial public offering, said the sale to AEA Investors was a "a broadly positive move for Ciba." Ciba-Geigy shares closed at 1,475 francs, down 4 francs, in Zurich. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

Airbus Thinking Big

New Division to Develop 500-Seat Jet

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Airbus Industrie has established a new division to develop an airliner capable of carrying more than 500 passengers, the European jetmaker said Tuesday.

The division's first priority will be to refine existing market studies to decide the basic specifications for the new jet, whose prototype name is A-3XX, Airbus said.

"This measure, which represents a speeding up of the consortium's research in this field, should allow Airbus Industrie to enter a new sector of the market covering aircraft of more than 500 seats," the planemaker said.

The new aircraft would be able to fly such long routes as London to Sydney, it added.

Airbus has predicted that over the next 20 years, 1,300 aircraft seating more than 500 passengers will be sold at a total cost of about $300 billion.

Jürgen Thomas, a former executive at Airbus and at Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG, will head the new division. He was European project manager for the Very Large Commercial Transport project when it collapsed in 1995. That research venture by Airbus and its U.S. rival, Boeing Co., sought to build a superjumbo airliner with 600 to 800 seats.

His division "will work throughout the predevelopment phase in close cooperation with a group of representatives of major potential clients," Airbus said.

Aircraft manufacturers and governments in Britain, France and Germany have called for a European superjumbo jet to compete with Boeing's efforts in the field.

Analysts note that Airbus needs an airliner capable of carrying more than 400 people, its current upper limit. It has lost several major orders, particularly in Asia, partly because of its inability to offer a jumbo jet.

A Boeing 747 can carry as many as 568 passengers in two-class configuration.

But Airbus must come up with the estimated $14 billion research-and-development cost of building a jumbo jet.

The consortium is considering adding a fifth partner to help share the cost, Senior Vice President John Leahy said.

Airbus comprises Aerospatiale of France, British Aerospace PLC, Construcciones Aeronauticas SA of Spain and Deutsche Aerospace AG of Germany.

(AP, Bloomberg, AFX)

Paris to Unveil Telecom Bill

Reuters

PARIS — The government is set to unveil legislation Wednesday that will deregulate domestic telecommunications and break up state-owned France Telecom's last monopoly businesses.

The bill, to be debated in the National Assembly and the Senate over the coming months, is designed to help France meet the Jan. 1, 1998, deadline for the deregulation of telecommunications throughout the European Union.

The telecom bill does not discuss the planned privatization of a majority stake in France Telecom, but instead sets the rules for free competition in the industry.

Telecommunications Minister François Fillon, who will present the bill at a news conference after a cabinet meeting, has tried to keep the new rules separate from the sensitive issue of the France Telecom sale.

But France Telecom's unions see the two moves as inseparable elements of the same threat to jobs and have called a one-day strike on April 11, with further action possible.

Many of Mr. Fillon's proposals have already been made public, in part because the telecommunications minister conducted a long consultation process before drafting the bill.

The bill's main measure would allow private operators to offer telecommunications services. Until now, competition has centered on mobile telecommunications.

The bill will propose an independent three-member regulatory commission to oversee the industry and arbitrate disputes. Mr. Fillon's drafts suggest the members would be appointed by the government, but the state would not be able to fire them.

Granting operating licences would, however, remain the prerogative of the government.

Daimler Is Expected To Withhold Dividend

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STUTTGART — Daimler-Benz AG on Tuesday did not deny a newspaper report saying that the company would not pay a 1995 dividend and said it would issue a statement on corporate results Wednesday.

Daimler has said it expects a 1995 loss of 6 billion Deutsche marks ($4.05 billion).

The daily Stuttgarter Nachrichten said it was "considered certain" that Daimler's supervisory board would vote to omit the dividend, but it did not cite specific sources. Daimler paid a dividend of eight DM last year, following a 1994 profit of 895 million DM.

Daimler said it would issue a statement at 2 P.M. Wednesday, following a meeting of the board.

"It's not decided," said a Daimler spokeswoman, Ursula Mertzig-Stein, referring to the dividend. She added, however, that "expectations are not very high. One pays a dividend from a profit."

Daimler's loss would come following a year in which it dismantled its AEG AG unit and severed its financial lifeline to Fokker NV, the Dutch aircraft maker that subsequently filed for bankruptcy. Daimler said in January that those events and other factors would contribute to its loss. Daimler shares closed at 798 DM, down 2.10.

(Bloomberg, AFX, Reuters)

■ Taiwan Investment Planned

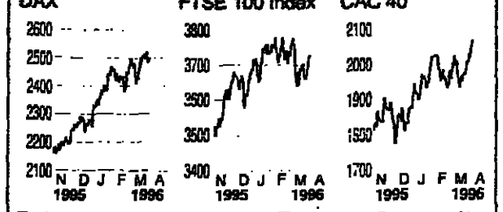
Daimler-Benz AG plans to invest in two auto-leasing ventures in Taiwan, its local partner said on Tuesday, Reuters reported from Taipei.

"DEBIS, Daimler-Benz's financial-services unit, has informed us of its interest to invest in our two auto-leasing companies, and both sides should reach a final agreement in June," said Richard Shao, general manager of Tung Yang Leasing Co. and of Tung Hsin Auto Leasing Co.

Tung Yang is also in the auto-retail business, while Tung Hsin leases cars, Mr. Shao said. Both companies are affiliates of Capital Motors Inc., the local agent of Daimler-Benz.

Mr. Shao said neither the size of the investment nor the stakes to be taken by Daimler-Benz had been finalized.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	537.49	537.28	+0.04
Brussels	Stock Exchange	8,816.15	8,712.59	+1.19
Frankfurt	DAX	2,501.22	2,489.09	+0.49
Copenhagen	Stock Market	386.84	386.86	-0.01
Helsinki	HEX General	1,814.55	1,831.07	-0.90
Oslo	OBX	432.02	428.77	+0.76
London	FTSE 100	3,728.20	3,718.40	+0.26
Madrid	Stock Exchange	343.56	342.06	+0.44
Milan	MIBTEL	9,341.00	9,284.00	+0.61
Paris	CAC 40	2,070.41	2,055.83	+0.72
Stockholm	SX 16	2,008.74	2,026.41	-0.82
Vienna	ATX	1,062.84	1,057.77	+0.49
Zurich	SPI	2,329.39	2,330.25	-0.04

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Granada Group PLC** is creating **Granada Media Group**, a division to contain the British company's television and media interests.
- **Highland Distilleries Co.**'s pretax profit fell 6 percent, to £22.2 million ($33.8 million), in its first half due to risinginterest costs and a decline in earnings from the British company's stakes in affiliates.
- **Tarmac PLC** posted a 28 percent increase in operating profit from continuing businesses, to £95.9 million, but Chief Executive Neville I. Simms said the British construction-and-building-materials company would spend 1996 integrating its new businesses.
- **Liberty PLC** warned that profit for the 1995-96 financial year would be lower than the previous year's. The chief executive of the apparel retailer resigned.
- **Troll**, the world's largest natural gas-field project, will be finished this month, according to the developer, **Norske Shell**, which also said it would meet its early October deadline for first shipments.
- **LM Ericsson AB** has signed a letter of intent with the **Russian Communications Ministry** that allows it to make bids in connection with a $10 billion program for expanding the Russian telephone network.
- **Mediaset SpA**, a television broadcaster, sold stakes for 124 billion lire ($79.0 million) to **Abu Dhabi Investment Authority** and for 10 billion lire to **Morgan Stanley & Co.**
- **Italy's** 2 trillion-lire rescue plan for **Banco di Napoli** will come under scrutiny by the **European Commission**, Competition Commissioner Karel Van Miert told an Italian newspaper.
- **Montedison SpA** may sell its 50.5 percent stake in **Eridania Béghin-Say SA** to a pool of French banks, including **Cie. Financière de Paribas**, an Italian business magazine reported. The company refused to comment.
- **European Union** inflation fell to an annual rate of 2.7 percent in February, the lowest level since January 1987.

Reuters, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, AFP

AMEX

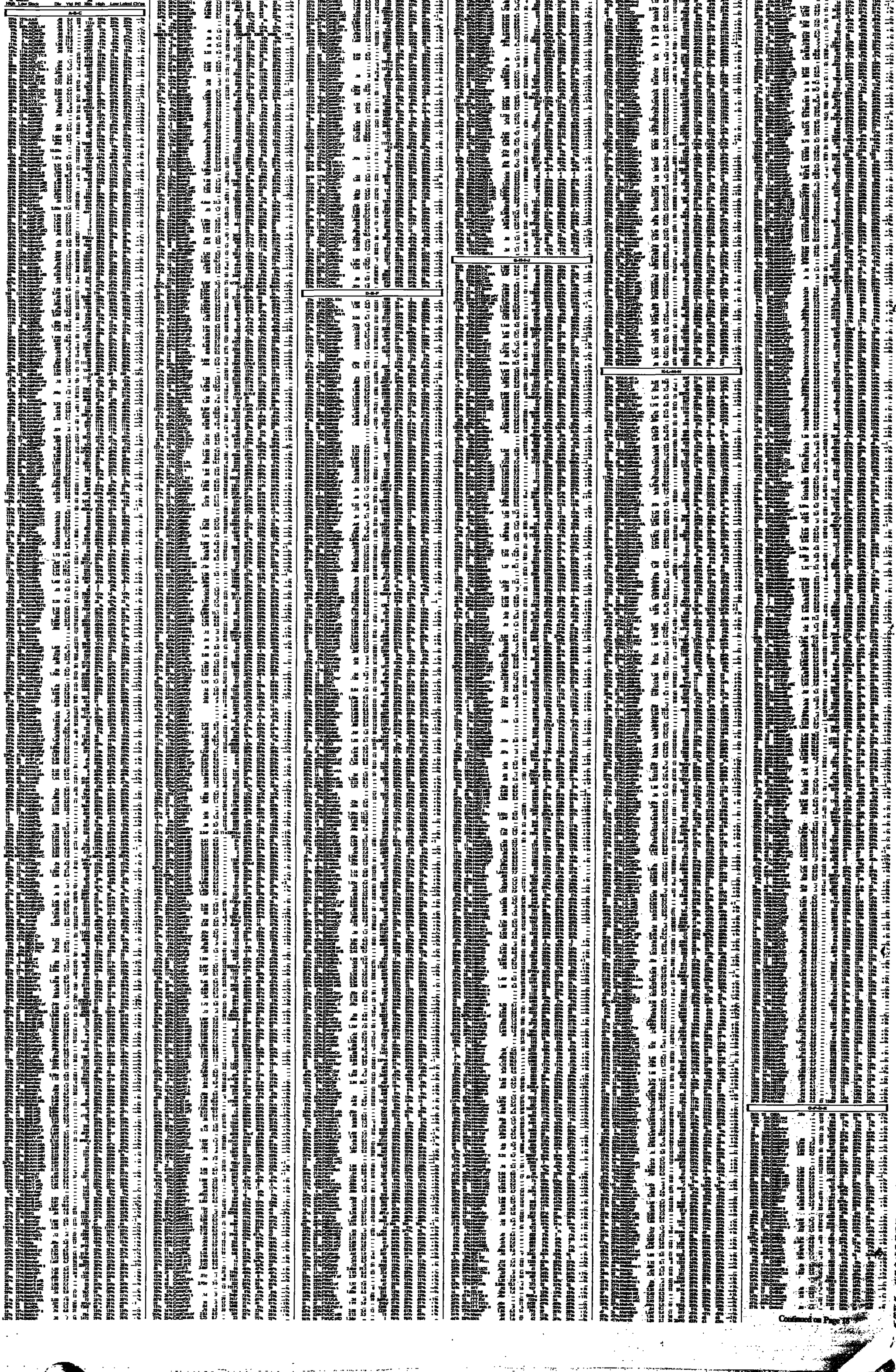
Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close
The top 300 most-active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
AIM Str	703	9¾	9¾	9¾	+⅛
AMC	347	24½	24⅜	24½	+⅛
AMCP pf	107	21¼	21¼	21¼	+⅛
ASR s	173	17⅝	17½	17⅝	+⅛
AdvMicro	1753	22⅝	21⅝	22⅝	+⅝
AdvMed	341	29¾	29¼	29¾	+⅜
Aerosn	1	4	4	4	
AirExpGn	168	11¼	11¼	11¼	+⅛
AlaskAir	1	4⅜	4⅜	4⅜	
Amax	1	34⅜	34⅜	34⅜	+⅛
Amerex n	1922	6¾	6¾	6¾	+⅛
Amdrus	133	13⅜	13⅜	13⅜	+⅛
AngloGld	1	4⅜	4⅜	4⅜	
Anuhco	140	14⅜	14⅜	14⅜	+⅛
Aonerpnx	139	14¼	14¼	14¼	+⅛
Asarte	173	4¾	4¾	4¾	+⅛
Atari	1445	5⅜	5⅛	5⅜	+⅛
Atlas	93	5⅛	5	5⅛	+⅛
BAT Ind	1	8⅜	8⅜	8⅜	+⅛
BHC	1	34⅜	34⅜	34⅜	+⅛
Baker	1451	5⅞	5¾	5⅞	+⅛
Barnys	1	9⅜	9⅜	9⅜	+⅛
BarrLbs s	19	28¾	28¾	28¾	+⅛
Bayou	1	7	7	7	+⅛
BSYn pwt97	1	6¾	6¾	6¾	+⅛
BarrickGld	1586	19⅜	19⅛	19⅜	+⅛
BenchTc	10	30⅜	30⅜	30⅜	+⅛
BenfnFn s	423	22⅜	22⅛	22⅜	+⅛
BirkMW	1	23⅜	23⅜	23⅜	+⅛
BioR A	1	2⅜	2⅜	2⅜	+⅛
Biowtr s	1	28⅜	28⅜	28⅜	+⅛
BlandT n	1	11¼	11¼	11¼	+⅛
Bogen n	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Bowne	1	16⅜	16⅜	16⅜	+⅛
Brandyw	1	6⅜	6⅜	6⅜	+⅛
Brenton	1	6⅜	6⅜	6⅜	+⅛
BT Fnk	1	17⅜	17⅜	17⅜	+⅛
CET ES n	1	10⅜	10⅜	10⅜	+⅛
CIM	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
CTSTint	1	4⅜	4⅜	4⅜	+⅛
Calvin n	1	5⅜	5⅜	5⅜	+⅛
Calton	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
Cambior	1	13⅜	13⅜	13⅜	+⅛
Cambrex	1	45⅜	45⅜	45⅜	+⅛
CapCtl	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
CastleAM	1	17⅜	17⅜	17⅜	+⅛
CentAlt s	1	1⅜	1⅜	1⅜	+⅛
CenterPr	1	23⅜	23⅜	23⅜	+⅛
CFCda n	1	22⅜	22⅜	22⅜	+⅛
CheapSkt	1	15⅜	15⅜	15⅜	+⅛
Chemex	1	4⅜	4⅜	4⅜	+⅛
Cobalt	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
CompTch	1	16⅜	16⅜	16⅜	+⅛
Comstck	1	5⅜	5⅜	5⅜	+⅛
ConMag	1	10⅜	10⅜	10⅜	+⅛
Cross	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
Cyacmrs s	1	29⅜	29⅜	29⅜	+⅛
DakotaM	1	2⅜	2⅜	2⅜	+⅛
Datamet	1	6⅜	6⅜	6⅜	+⅛
DayWtrn n	1	8⅜	8⅜	8⅜	+⅛
DevVnE	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
Dipkon	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Dmnpnk s	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
DrvINu	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
DrvINY	1	16⅜	16⅜	16⅜	+⅛
DrivHar	1	14⅜	14⅜	14⅜	+⅛
Duratk	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
EagleBcp	1	12⅜	12⅜	12⅜	+⅛
Eastgc	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Elcom	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
Elecsys n	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Elxsi	1	3⅜	3⅜	3⅜	+⅛
Emrsn A	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Emrsn B	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Endevco	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Engex	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Envrtch	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Esterline	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
Evans	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FalconBr	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FarmFd n	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FibrBd s	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FibrNtk	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FibrNtk n	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FibrNtk s	1	11⅜	11⅜	11⅜	+⅛
FibrNtk wt					

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close

Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.



Continued on Page 19

As Japan Grouses, Finance Ministry Considers Reforms

Bloomberg Business News

TOKYO — The Finance Ministry, under fire for its handling of Japan's bad-loan crisis, bank failures and financial disclosure rules, set up a task force on Tuesday to study how to reform itself.

The announcement came a day after a bank scandal emerged as Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd. acknowledged that its U.S. unit had filed false reports to authorities in connection with trading in bonds and certificates of deposit.

Finance Minister Wataru Kubo said that he wanted the task force to finish discussions by the end of the current Diet session on June 19. He said the group would focus on getting Japan's financial market regulations in line with international standards, among other points.

The task force, led by Vice Finance Minister Tadashi Ogawa, held its first meeting on Tuesday. But Mr. Kubo's announcement immediately met with criticism, even from Cabinet ministers.

Shusei Tanaka, chief of the Economic Planning Agency, said any effort by the ministry to reform itself "may cause misunderstanding" among the public that the government is not serious about changing.

"This reform should be led by politicians," he said.

"I think the Finance Ministry's move represents an effort to protect themselves," said Mamoru Yamaguchi, an economist at Nikko Research Institute. "They would never carry out really painful surgery by themselves."

But politicians have long been involved in the effort to reform the ministry. In February, the ruling coalition formed its own task force to discuss ministry reform.

Some ministry officials have been invited to the ruling coalition's task force meetings. Mr. Kubo said he would welcome an exchange of views between the two groups.

The ministry has faced mounting public criticism over its administration of Japanese banks, which it estimates are saddled with at least 40 trillion yen ($371.9 billion) in bad loans. Last year it also drew protest from U.S. authorities for helping conceal $1.1 billion in unauthorized bond-trading losses by Daiwa Bank's New York unit.

The outcry heightened at home early this year when the government acknowledged that the ministry had placed 13 former officials in key positions at the nation's seven, now-insolvent housing loan companies. An unpopular government plan calling on taxpayers to help fund the liquidation of the housing lenders is being debated in the Diet.

Separately on Tuesday, the Japan Bond Research Institute downgraded the long-term bond ratings of Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Sakura Bank Ltd. and Nippon Credit Bank Ltd. The banks recently slashed their earnings forecasts to write off bad loans.

BAe Dangles Subcontracts On Jet Deal

The Associated Press

CANBERRA — British Aerospace PLC raised the stakes in its bid to sell Hawk training jets to Australia's air force on Tuesday by declaring that Australian companies would get more than 1 billion Australian dollars ($786 million) in benefits under the contract.

"The number of jobs which would be directly involved with this would be in the region of about 700 at its peak," said Robin Southwell, chief executive of British Aerospace Australia Holdings Ltd.

The benefits estimate did not include the cost of the aircraft, which is confidential.

Qantas Airways Ltd. is the largest of 16 Australian companies working with British Aerospace on the bid to replace Australia's aging, Italian-designed Macchi fleet with up to 40 Lead-In Fighter Hawk aircraft.

Should the bid be successful, Qantas would assemble, test and maintain the aircraft engines.

BAe proposed that up to 28 Hawks be tested and assembled in Australia.

STAR Ignites Competition

Satellite Broadcasts Signal Opening of Japan

Los Angeles Times

TOKYO — A new era of foreign-television broadcasting has begun in Japan with the launch of 24-hour programming to the country by Rupert Murdoch's Hong Kong-based STAR TV.

STAR TV's entry into the Japanese market this week — with American and Asian programs dubbed or subtitled in Japanese, plus a few shows purchased from Japanese producers — marked the first wave in what could become a flood of foreign programming targeted at viewers in the world's second-largest economy. STAR TV has long been available in other parts of Asia.

"Now for the first time, Japanese television is under real competition with foreign services," said Reimei Okamura, a professor of international media at Rirsumeikan University in Kyoto. "STAR TV is just the beginning of a rush of foreign signals, I believe."

Key to the new opening of the Japanese broadcasting world are technical developments in digital-satellite broadcasting that allow a large number of channels to be carried over a limited number of frequencies. Another major factor is fear within the Japanese government, especially at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, that without rapid deregulation and development of infrastructure, Japan risks falling behind in the global race to develop and use cutting-edge information and telecommunications technology.

In a sharp break with traditional restrictions, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications last year granted permission to STAR TV and Turner Broadcasting System Inc.'s TNT & Cartoon Network channel to launch direct-satellite broadcasts to Japan and to receive income from that programming. Such broadcasts are expected to boost the growth of both satellite and cable television in Japan.

"Japan is on its way to creating one of the most vibrant and dynamic cable-satellite television industries in the region," said Gary Davey, STAR TV's chief executive. "We look forward to playing a part in the Japanese satellite-television industry. We saw an important opportunity to work with the Japanese cable industry as it grows."

TNT & Cartoon Network is not yet reaching individual Japanese subscribers, but its pan-Asian signal, carried on a Chinese satellite, now "is available to cable operators who have to make a decision about whether to put it on their systems," said Ted McFarland, president of Turner International Asia Pacific.

Some American and other foreign programming, including Turner Broadcasting's Cable News Network, is already available in Japan through cable television or Japanese-owned broadcast satellites. But in all cases, the companies delivering this programming are either entirely or primarily Japanese-owned.

STAR TV, which started Monday with one channel but plans six 24-hour channels within two years, will spend about $4 million annually per channel just for dubbing and subtitles, said John McBride, STAR TV's regional director for Japan. It will initially be carried by 35 cable-television companies with 400,000 viewers, and aims for 1.2 million cable viewers within a year and 3.5 million subscribers by 2000, he added.

The initial channel offers a wide variety of programming. STAR TV plans to add five more specialty channels: a so-called learning channel mainly devoted to English and computer study for children and families; a pay-movie channel; the Fox Sports Channel; Fox animation; and an Asian music-video channel.

Murdoch Ready to Spend for TCI Venture

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — Rupert Murdoch, chairman of News Corp., has said he is prepared to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in a satellite venture with Tele-Communications Inc. and John C. Malone, its chief executive.

Mr. Murdoch, analysts say, is eager to make his mark on the fast-growing satellite-television industry in the United States. He is already well established in Europe with British Sky Broadcasting PLC and in Asia with STAR TV.

Joining with Tele-Communications would allow Mr. Murdoch and his satellite-TV partner MCI Communications Corp. to quickly compete with the industry leader, DirecTV Inc., which has 1.3 million subscribers. That is because TCI is a member of another satellite broadcasting group that has 1.1 million subscribers.

"That would put us up with DirecTV right at the beginning," said Mr. Murdoch in a recent interview. DirecTV is a rapidly growing unit of Hughes Electronics Corp., a subsidiary of General Motors Corp.

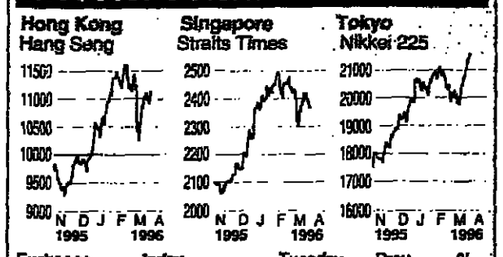
Any investment in a satellite venture with TCI, the largest cable company in the United States, would be substantial. "I have no doubt that to establish the relative equity positions I would like to see, we would be putting in a considerable amount of cash," Mr. Murdoch said. "It could be in the hundreds of millions. This is a big enterprise."

In January, MCI bid $682 million for the rights to operate a nationwide broadcast-satellite network. MCI and News Corp. then agreed to form a venture to get the project off the ground. But the venture cannot start until late 1997, when Loral Corp. is expected to deliver two satellites costing a total of $400 million.

That is where Mr. Malone and the Colorado-based TCI come in. TCI is a member of PrimeStar Partners, which has 1.1 million satellite-television subscribers. PrimeStar would like to have a better slot in the sky because its customers have to buy bulky 36-inch (0.9 meter) satellite dishes, not the sleek 18-inch models that News Corp. has said it will use.

What TCI and PrimeStar do have are satellites and customers.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	11,144.60	10,926.60	+1.99
Singapore	Straits Times	2,365.81	2,376.03	-0.43
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,236.90	2,230.30	+0.30
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	21,600.08	21,560.39	+0.18
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,153.22	1,158.44	-0.45
Bangkok	SET	1,320.86	1,293.63	+2.10
Seoul	Composite Index	884.47	880.16	+0.49
Taipei	Stock Market Index	5,175.75	5,032.35	+2.85
Manila	PSE	2,939.39	2,919.08	+0.70
Jakarta	Composite Index	588.27	587.60	+0.11
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,128.23	2,133.59	-0.25
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,409.69	Closed	-

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• **Japan's** Minister of International Trade and Industry, Shunpei Tsukahara, said trade disputes between his country and the United States over film and microchips will not be central to talks during President Bill Clinton's visit to Japan this month.

• **Philippine Airlines** is to tap 12 international financial institutions for at least half of the $600 million it needs for an ambitious refleeting program, the official Philippines News Agency reported. The airline refused to comment.

• **Hong Kong's** Hang Seng index rose 2 percent, to 11,144.64 points, a three-week high, amid signs of a sustained recovery in the local real-estate market. Property developers such as **Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd., Henderson Land Development Co., Cheung Kong Holdings Ltd., Citic Pacific Ltd. and New World Development Co.** all gained.

• **Shanghai New Asia (Group) Co.** said its Taiwan partner in a new $60 million hotel in Shanghai's Pudong development zone wants to sell its 50 percent stake in the venture, raising questions about how the hotel will be financed. The partner, privately owned **Thomson Group**, was unavailable for comment. The 500-room hotel is due to open June 28.

• **Indonesia** has imposed excise duties of up to 50,000 rupiah ($21) per liter on five categories of alcoholic beverages. Duties previously had been imposed only on beer and pure alcohol.

• **Berjaya Group** of Malaysia, a diversified property developer, will buy 28.9 percent of **Transwater Corp.** for 42 million ringgit ($16.6 million), raising its stake in the equipment-and-services company to 40.7 percent.

• **Haagen-Dazs**, a subsidiary of **Grand Metropolitan PLC**, opened **China's** first ice cream cafe, in Shanghai, and it plans to invest $40 million in the country over the next decade.

• **Bangkok Expressway PLC**, in an effort to trim borrowing costs, will sign an agreement Wednesday with 13 financial institutions to convert loans worth 4.35 billion baht (172.3 million) into foreign currencies. *AFP, AFX, Bloomberg, Reuters*

Asset Sales Lift Peregrine Net

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Peregrine Investments Holdings Ltd. said Tuesday that net profit in 1995 rose 55 percent, with much of the gain coming from the sale of its stake in a London-based investment management company.

The Hong Kong-based financial-services company earned 1.01 billion million Hong Kong dollars ($130.6 million), with 663.9 million dollars coming from the August sale of a quarter of Invesco PLC. Peregrine also added 77 million dollars to its bottom line through the sale of its Malaysian branch, Phileo Peregrine Securities.

Without those sales, net profit would have fallen 59 percent from 1994.

When asked why Peregrine included the income from the sales in its operating profit category rather treating it as an exceptional item, Chairman Philip Tose said: "Direct investment is a very large part of our business. As far as I'm concerned, Invesco was a direct investment."

Revenue rose 290 percent, to 84.39 billion dollars, but investment trading contributed only 15 billion of those dollars. *(Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)*

Samurai Bond Sales Hit Record as Issuers Grab Low Yen Rates

Bloomberg Business News

TOKYO — Foreign governments, companies and other institutions are cashing in on historically low Japanese interest rates to raise record amounts of funds here, according to figures released Tuesday.

In the year to March 31, foreign borrowers issued 2.1 trillion yen ($19.52 billion) in yen-denominated bonds in Japan, the Bond Underwriters Association of Japan said. These issues, known as samurai bonds, were up 67 percent from the previous year.

The market's attraction lies in the opportunity to borrow at some of the world's lowest interest rates. In September, as Japan's economy struggled through its fourth year of slow growth, the Bank of Japan cut its discount rate on short-term loans to banks to a record low 0.5 percent. Other interest rates followed this benchmark lower.

Samurai sales "give us pretty attractive funding costs," said Melvin Nunes, general manager of Western Australia Treasury Corp., which sold 15 billion yen of two-year samurai bonds in January.

The benchmark 10-year Japanese government bond yields just over 3 percent, or about 3.19 percentage points less than its U.S. counterpart. That means foreign borrowers can pay roughly 3.19 percentage points less on 10-year yen bonds than on U.S. dollar-denominated securities of similar maturities.

On Western Australia's two-year issue in January, the 5.7 percent coupon was well below the 8.4 percent the company is paying on its two-year bonds in Australia.

"The Japanese bond market is the most favorable market in the world for us," said Chung Young Chul, a manager in Seoul for Korea Electric Power Corp., which sold 21 billion yen in samurai bonds in January. "Even after we swap yen into dollars, which is what we need, samurai bonds are still 20 to 30 basis points lower than Yankee bonds." Yankee bonds are foreign bonds denominated in U.S. dollars and sold in the United States.

Samurai bonds also benefit domestic investors by offering a higher yield than government bonds. For investors betting that the yen will weaken, a growing number of samurai bonds pay interest and principal in foreign currencies.

Bigger Is Not Necessarily Better

Analysts Say Japanese Banks Need to Take Efficiency Measures

By Sheryl WuDunn
New York Times Service

TOKYO — After two Japanese banks said a year ago that they would officially merge, to become the world's biggest bank, the financial community waited excitedly for details.

For months there was not a peep from either the savvy, worldly Bank of Tokyo Ltd. or the aristocratic Mitsubishi Bank Ltd., until an announcement in November: A team of bankers from both sides had finally agreed on the uniforms that women employees would wear.

Only after that did other details trickle out about the new Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd. The new logo would be a rose, they would maintain both headquarters buildings and there would be no layoffs.

On Monday, the banks did merge. But a Japanese banking marriage, far from being a Western-style merge-and-slash rebirth, can create a more elephantine structure. With $737 billion in assets, the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi will be 2.4 times the size of the new Chase Manhattan Corp., which implemented its merger with Chemical Banking Corp. on Sunday to become the biggest U.S. bank.

In many ways, the new Japanese giant is a symbol of the struggle for the future of Japan's banks and its financial industry.

Japanese mergers are clearly less traumatic for employees than American mergers are. But the crucial question, critics say, is whether the banks will simply merge and swell, sweeping their problems under their silk carpets, or transform themselves to become more profitable and competitive in the global marketplace. "We fully realize the bank's social mandate and responsibility," said Tasuku Takagaki, former president of Bank of Tokyo and the new bank's president. "The question is: What do we do to improve our rating? I don't believe there is a magic wand to accomplish this, so we need to improve our business and efficiency through steady work. We realize Japan's credibility is being challenged from abroad, and that this has been due to a lack of a sense of mission for the society."

Analysts say a revamping is needed for Japanese banking, which has been battered by more than $400 million of bad debt and many bank failures. The latest victim, Taiheiyo Bank Ltd., a small regional bank, failed over the weekend.

As the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi opened its doors for the first time on Monday, rumors of more such unions swirled, with estimates that six to eight of the nation's 20 money-center banks might disappear or be absorbed within a few years. "They really better have a strategy for the future," said Elizabeth Daniels, a banking analyst at Morgan Stanley Japan Inc. "But does merging of banks necessarily do anything? In an environment where they don't significantly decrease costs, no."

Japan's banks need to shrink loan portfolios, analysts say, not expand them. "Putting two banks together reduces the number of banks, but if they are not prepared to shrink the loan books, it doesn't matter," said David Threadgold of Barclays de Zoete Wedd Research Ltd. "But this is how they judge themselves. The bigger the balance sheet, the more respect they'll get at the golf club."

Even as they advise an overall shrinking in lending, analysts say the banks need to increase their loans in some profitable areas, such as lending to small and medium-size companies, or to businesses where they can earn fees rather than interest income. Japanese banks are lagging behind their U.S. counterparts in profitability.

SNAPPLE: *A $40 Million Campaign to Create a Snazzier Image*

Continued from Page 13

Don Uzzi, president of Quaker's North American beverage division. "No doubt. To really understand last year, we went back to consumers. They told us they want us to be 'unexpectedly different.' So we've brought a way of making the brand even more Snapple-like."

Margaret Stender, Snapple's vice president for marketing, said: "Snapple gained popularity because it offered an alternative. This campaign is reasserting that position."

For instance, one glitzy commercial called "Anthem," directed by the film director Spike Lee, promotes the freedom theme, complete with marching bands, floats and a mock lounge singer warbling the song "Born Free."

A second spot, directed by Spike Jonze, who specializes in off-center music-video clips, features mascots — people dressed as Snapple bottles — cheering for colas while an announcer slyly says: "So why make over 40 flavors but not cola? We figure cola was covered." In a third, deliberately cheesy spot, sock puppets explore the ultimate frontier: new diet Snapple flavors.

It is the reworked Mikey spot, however, that is likely to garner the most attention. Through a process known as digital compositing, which has been featured in the film "Forrest Gump" and commercials for products like Miller Lite beer, the special-effects company Industrial Light & Magic makes it seem as if the two boys who egged on Mikey to try Life cereal are encouraging him to sample various Snapple flavors.

The joke here: Unlike the original spot, in which finicky Mikey unexpectedly likes Life cereal — a sibling to Snapple in the Quaker brand family — this Mikey dislikes some Snapple flavors while liking others.

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The Associated Press.

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(Continued)

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WORLD ROUNDUP



Lionel Cironneau/AP

Some soccer might be Boris Becker's only game in Limoges.

Becker Cup Doubt

TENNIS Boris Becker may have to drop out of Germany's Davis Cup match against France in Limoges this week. Becker flew to Munich Tuesday to see a doctor about his bronchitis.

Niki Pilic, the German Davis Cup captain, said: "He is 99 percent certain of not being able to play any of the singles rubbers. There is still a chance he could play doubles."

Michael Stich is also unfit to play. *(Reuters)*

Natal Upsets Australians

RUGBY UNION Natal scored 34 points in the second half to upset New South Wales, 34-6, in a Super 12 game in Sydney, Australia, on Tuesday. New South Wales led 3-0 at halftime. But the South African team ran in five second-half tries. Outside center Jeremy Thomson ran in two tries. Wingers Joost Joubert and James Small and flanker Wayne Fyvie also scored.

Auckland moved to the top of the table after thrashing another New Zealand team, Otago, 51-29, in Pukekohe, New Zealand. *(Reuters)*

Sri Lankans Set Records

CRICKET Sanath Jayasuriya broke three one-day international scoring records as he scored 134 to help Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by 34 runs in the opening match of the triangular Singer Cup on Tuesday.

Jayasuriya hit 11 sixes, the most sixes in a one-day innings. The previous record was eight set by Gordon Greenidge of the West Indies. He scored his century in 48 balls, beating the record of 62 balls by Mohammad Azahruddin of India. He also broke the record for most runs in an over, hitting 30 runs, including four consecutive sixes, off Aamir Sohail.

Sri Lanka made 349 for nine wickets. Pakistan reached 315 in reply. The aggregate of 664 was also a record. *(Reuters)*

Dynamo Punished

SOCCER Dynamo Moscow, of the Russian Premier League, was banned Tuesday from playing at their home stadium for three matches following an incident last month in which a referee was reportedly beaten unconscious.

Nikolai Tolstykh, the president of club, was banned from his duties as president and barred from official seating areas in the stadium until November. *(Reuters, AFP)*

Strickland Pleads Guilty

BASKETBALL Portland Trail Blazers guard Rod Strickland pleaded guilty to hitting his former girlfriend. Judge Lettiteia Martin ordered Strickland to attend a program for batterers.

Strickland was arrested in November on charges of assault, menacing and harassment for allegedly hitting the mother of his five-year-old son. *(AP)*

Kentucky Takes Title, but Syracuse Keeps it Close

Wildcats Win 6th NCAA Crown After 18-Year Wait

By Malcolm Moran
New York Times Service

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey — The Kentucky Wildcats have fulfilled the most demanding wish in college basketball.

They overcame persistent but outgunned Syracuse, which narrowed a 13-point second-half deficit to two. In the final, decisive minutes, the Wildcats overcame the mysteries of the Syracuse defense for a 76-67 victory at the Meadowlands on Monday night.

Kentucky won its sixth National Collegiate Athletic Association national championship and its first since 1978. Tony Delk tied a championship-game record with seven three-point baskets, scored 24 points and was voted the outstanding player.

Kentucky had three other double-figure scorers. Ron Mercer, a freshman, scored 20 points on eight-of-12 shooting, and Derek Anderson and Antoine Walker each scored 11 as Kentucky gave the Southeastern Conference its second basketball title in two days; Tennessee won the women's crown on Sunday.

Syracuse was led by John Wallace, who scored 29 points with 10 rebounds before fouling out of the game with 1 minute, 6 seconds to play. The Orangemen committed 24 turnovers, which led to 27 Kentucky points. Lazarus Sims, a senior guard who had a nearly 2-to-1 assist-to-turnover ratio in the five previous tournament games, had seven assists and seven turnovers.

Sims, the primary target of Kentucky's trademark pressure defense, injured his left wrist in a collision with 13:38 to play and with Orangemen within six points. Syracuse committed turnovers on each of its next five possessions.

But with Sims back in the lineup, the Orangemen drew within two points when Wallace made two free throws with 4:46 to go. But that was as close as Syracuse, which never led in the second half, got to its first NCAA title.

From the start, the Wildcats were precise in their repeated attempts to penetrate the zone and search for its seams, rather than settling for quick, open shots. "Fool's gold" is what Kentucky's coach, Rick Pitino, called those shots. Kentucky scored on just three of its first 14 possessions, but Delk's hot shooting kept the Wildcats close.

Delk made his first three three-point shots within the first eight minutes, the last one giving Kentucky an 11-10 lead despite its early problems.

At the other end, Wallace's strength and improved outside shooting — the factor that raised his game to a new level in his senior season — complicated Kentucky's defensive effort.

Otis Hill, the Syracuse junior and an essential factor in his team's semifinal victory, scored just five points in the half. But Hill's effort occupied defenders, a problem that Pitino had thought about the day before the game.

"The problem with Hill is Wallace," Pitino had said, "and the problem with Wallace is Hill."

The Wildcats had an increasing problem when the two controlled the offensive boards in one emotional sequence. A missed shot by Wallace was retrieved by Hill, whose miss was converted by Wallace. The Orangemen had a 21-18 lead with 8:42 to go in the first half, and the Syracuse fans, inspired by the effort, sounded as if their hopes were increasing.

Kentucky came in with an average of 92 points a game, and the Wildcats were held below 80 in only five games this season. But with less than five minutes to go in the half, Kentucky was at 23 points as the Wildcats endured a stretch of 8:06 in which they managed just three field goals.

Syracuse was guiding the pace in the direction it preferred, but the Orangemen were developing some serious problems. They had been nearly flawless in the semifinal against Mississippi State, with a total of five turnovers in the victory, three of which came in the last six minutes. Kentucky's pressure, an all-out defensive effort fortified by waves of substitutions, made the Orangemen far more erratic.

They committed seven turnovers in the first eight minutes, 10 in the first 12:34 and 13 in the first half.

Kentucky scored 15 of its first 34 points as the direct result of Syracuse turnovers. Syracuse made half of its first-half shots, but its errors — some created by pressure, others the result of a cumulative effect — gave the Wildcats opportunities the Orangemen could not afford to allow.

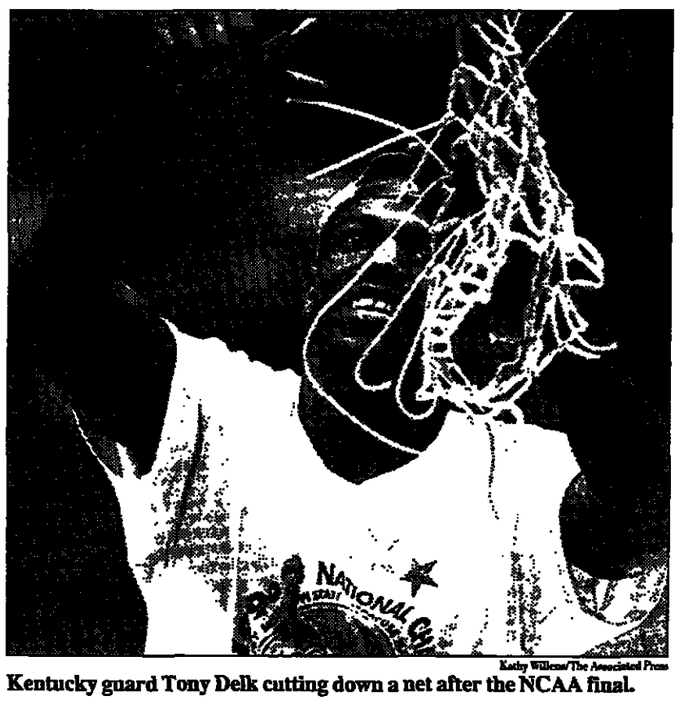
Delk, a 43-percent three-point shooter, used the openings created by an increased pace in the final minutes of the half to give the Wildcats a cushion. He made three three-point shots within a span of 3:09, the last giving Kentucky a 40-30 lead with 1:11 to play in the half. After all of Syracuse's work had given its fans a reason for hope, a 19-8 Kentucky surge over the final 4:40 of the half gave the Wildcats a nine-point halftime lead.

Delk scored nine of those 19 points and Mercer, a 6-foot-7-inch (2.66-meter) freshman, scored eight.



Ray Stubblebine/Reuters

Derek Anderson of Kentucky dribbling past Lazarus Sims of Syracuse.



Kathy Willens/The Associated Press

Kentucky guard Tony Delk cutting down a net after the NCAA final.

■ Fans Topple TV Vehicle

Kentucky fans poured onto the streets of Lexington on Monday night, overturning a television station's vehicle, tossing people over their shoulders and climbing utility poles, The Associated Press reported.

Police estimated 10,000 people crowded into the area north of the school's campus within minutes of Kentucky's victory over Syracuse.

Revelers started rocking a vehicle from a local television station with reporters John Brandon and Kimberly King inside. The two climbed out and asked the crowd to quit.

"I guess that egged them on, and you know the rest," Brandon said.

The vehicle was rolled onto its side and gasoline leaking from the tank caught fire. Firefighters were able to quickly extinguish the blaze.

Police said there had been no arrests and only one injury reported.

Some people climbed light posts and tore down street signs, while others picked up fellow celebrants and tossed them from person to person. A pickup truck had its front windshield shattered and cab collapsed.

Cowboys' Irvin Indicted On Two Drug Charges

New York Times Service

DALLAS — Michael Irvin, the star receiver for the Super Bowl champion Dallas Cowboys, has been indicted on a felony charge of cocaine possession and a misdemeanor charge of marijuana possession.

Irvin was arraigned Monday afternoon and released after posting bail of $5,000. He refused to comment as he left the Lew Sterrett justice center, but Kevin Clancy, Irvin's lawyer, said, "My client is innocent."

A Dallas County grand jury indicted Irvin for possession of at least four grams of cocaine as well as possession of two ounces of marijuana. The cocaine charge, a second-degree felony, carries a prison sentence of two to 20 years.

The charges stem from an incident four weeks ago, in which a hotel manager called the police to complain about "possible prostitution" in one of the hotel rooms. According to the police report, when officers arrived and knocked on the door to the room, they were greeted by Angela Renee Beck, who also has been charged, and "the smell of marijuana."

The police said that when they entered the room to look for the marijuana, they found Irvin and two other people, along with cocaine, marijuana, assorted drug paraphernalia and sex toys.

According to the police, Beck said the drugs belonged only to her. A second woman in the room, Jennifer Nabwangu, also was indicted on two drug charges. But Alfredo Roberts, a former Cowboys' player who was also present was not indicted.

Technicality Voided Drug Tests

The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Several Dallas Cowboys offensive players tested positive for drugs last spring, but a technicality prohibited the National Football League from acting on the results, according to a published report.

The Dallas Morning News reported Tuesday that it was told by three team sources that the league had to disregard the results because the urinalysis tests were performed three days too early.

The league's drug adviser directed all Cowboys offensive players to submit to urinalysis tests April 28, 1995, the newspaper reported.

The NFL has restricted ability to randomly test its players for illegal drugs and other banned substances. The league can randomly test players once before each season, and the testing period agreed upon by the NFL and the NFL Players Association was from May 1 through Aug. 20.

Sources said several players tested positive, but the NFLPA successfully disputed the findings because they came during a no-testing period.

The players who tested positive in the voided test were not identified.

The report came on the heels of the indictment Monday of Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin on two drug charges, including felony cocaine possession.

Irvin said he was aware that some drug tests last year were thrown out because they were improperly conducted. He said he was unsure of the specific reason they could not be used or whether any of the results were positive.

Steve Endicott, the Dallas-based agent who represents Irvin in contract negotiations, has consistently maintained Irvin never had failed an NFL drug test.

Dr. Laurence Brown, the NFL's drug adviser at the time of last year's tests, would not comment, referring questions to the league office. He would not say why the tests were conducted early.

Two Cowboys players were suspended without pay last season for positive drug tests.

Pro Bowl defensive lineman Leon Lett was suspended for four weeks after testing positive for marijuana. Reserve cornerback Clayton Holmes was banned for a year after testing positive for cocaine.

Sheppard the Spark that Sets Panthers Ablaze

The Associated Press

The Florida Panthers acquired Ray Sheppard to give them a spark. So far, he has been a ball of fire.

Sheppard contributed a goal and an assist Monday as the Panthers beat the Hartford Whalers, 3-2, to end a four-game losing streak.

It was not the first time Sheppard had delivered in the clutch for the Panthers. When he was first acquired from San Jose on March 16, he helped them end a nine-game winless streak. The right wing has six goals and two assists in eight games since arriving in Florida. Sheppard helped set up a goal for Robert Svehla in the first period and scored the Panthers' eventual winning goal with 14 minutes, 49 seconds left in the second period.

Sabres 6, Canadiens 4 In Montreal, Pat LaFontaine scored two goals as Buffalo, already eliminated from playoff contention, beat the Canadiens for the third time in five games this season.

Buffalo, which also got goals from Brian Holzinger, Mike Wilson, Randy Burridge and Jason Dawe, had lost four of its last five games. Andrei Kovalenko, Valeri Bure, Mark Recchi and Saku Koivu scored for Montreal, which had 50 shots at Dominik Hasek.

"I think this is the fourth time this year that I've faced 50 shots," Hasek said. "I don't mind, I'm used to it. It doesn't surprise me — we're not as strong defensively as we were."

Bruins 1, Senators 1 Visiting Boston scored a lucky goal in the third period, which was credited to Tim Sweeney, and held on for a tie against Ottawa.

Ottawa rookie Daniel Alfredsson broke a scoreless tie at 2:21 of the third period. But 68 seconds later, the Bruins caught a break. Dave Archibald's hard clearing attempt from the Ottawa goalmouth hit Sweeney's shinpad and bounced straight back past Senators goalie Damian Rhodes.

Oilers 6, Canucks 2 In Vancouver, Dean McAmmond scored two goals and Joaquin Gage made 21 saves as Edmonton beat the Canucks.

Todd Marchant, Jason Arnott, Boris Mironov and Mariusz Czerkawski also scored for the Oilers, who are 4-1-1 in their last six games in a late surge for the eighth and last playoff spot in the conference.

Russ Courtnall and Martin Gelinas scored for the Canucks, playing their second game under Pat Quinn after Rick Ley was fired as coach last week.

NHL ROUNDUP

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	1	0	1.000	—
Baltimore	0	0	.000	½
New York	0	0	.000	½
Boston	0	1	.000	1
Detroit	0	1	.000	1

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	—
Cleveland	0	0	.000	½
Kansas City	0	0	.000	½
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	½
Chicago	0	1	.000	1

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	1	0	1.000	—
Texas	1	0	1.000	—
California	0	0	.000	½
Oakland	0	1	.000	1

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	1	0	1.000	—
New York	1	0	1.000	—
Montreal	0	0	.000	½
Philadelphia	0	0	.000	½
Florida	0	1	.000	1

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	1	0	1.000	—
Pittsburgh	1	0	1.000	—
Cincinnati	0	0	.000	½
Houston	0	1	.000	1
St. Louis	0	1	.000	1

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	1	0	1.000	—
Colorado	0	0	.000	½
San Diego	0	1	.000	1
San Francisco	0	1	.000	1

MONDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Detroit	100	000	221	—4	10	0
Minnesota	303	010	10x	—8	12	1

Lira, Keagle (4), M. Myers (7), R. Lewis (8) and Flaherty; Radke, Mahomes (7), Hansell (8), Stevens (9) and G. Myers. W—Radke, 1-0. L—Lira, 0-1. Sv—Stevens (1). HRs—Detroit, E. Williams (1). Minnesota, Stahoviak (1).

Boston	000	001	011	—3	8	2
Texas	110	020	01x	—5	5	0

Clemens, Maddux (6), Suppan (8) and Stanley; K.Hill, Vosberg (9) and Rodriguez. W—K. Hill, 1-0. L—Clemens, 0-1. Sv—Vosberg (1). HRs—Boston, Naehring (1). Texas, Worthington (1).

Toronto	100	140	030	—9	13	0
Oakland	020	001	030	—6	5	0

Hanson, Castillo (8), Timlin (9) and A. Martinez; Reyes, Mohler (6), Briscoe (7), Groom (7), Wengert (8) and Steinbach. W—Hanson, 1-0. L—Reyes, 0-1. Sv—Timlin (1). HRs—Toronto, Cedeno (1), Olerud (1), AGonzalez (1). Oakland, Berroa (1), Steinbach (1).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

St. Louis	011	400	000	—6	13	0
New York	000	201	40x	—7	10	0

Addy Benes, Honeycutt (7), Bailey (7), Fossas (7), Mathews (8) and Borders; B.Jones, Miner (4), DiPoto (6), D. Henry (8), Franco (9) and Hundley. W—DiPoto, 1-0. L—Fossas, 0-1. Sv—Franco (1). HRs—St. Louis, McGee (1), Mabry (1). New York, Gilkey (1), Hundley (1).

San Francisco	000	022	013	—8	12	1
Atlanta	301	021	21x	—10	9	0

M.Leiter, Juden (6), Creek (7), Hook (8) and Manwaring; G.Maddux, Clontz (6), McMichael (8), Wohlers (9), Borbon (9) and Lopez. W—G. Maddux, 1-0. L—M. Leiter, 0-1. Sv—Borbon (1). HRs—San Francisco, G. Hill (1), Dunston (1). Atlanta, Blauser (1), McGriff (1), Klesko (1), Lemke (1), Walton (1).

Los Angeles	000	040	000	—4	11	0
Houston	010	002	00x	—3	6	1

R.Martinez, Hall (7), Todd Worrell (9) and Piazza; Reynolds, A.Young (6), Tabaka (8) and Wilkins. W—R. Martinez, 1-0. L—Reynolds, 0-1. Sv—Todd Worrell (1). HR—Houston, Bagwell (1).

San Diego	010	010	011	9	—4	6	0
Chicago	000	020	200	1	—5	8	0

(10 innings)

Ashby, Blair (8), Hoffman (10) and Auserais; Navarro, D. Jones (9), B.Patterson (10) and Servais. W—B. Patterson, 1-0. L—Hoffman, 0-1. HRs—Chicago, Servais (1). Sanchez (1).

Pittsburgh	010	000	030	—4	9	0
Florida	000	000	000	—0	3	1

Wagner, Lieber (7), Plesac (9) and Kendall; K.Brown, Y. Perez (8), Mathews (9), Wetteland (9) and C. Johnson. W—Wagner, 1-0. L—K. Brown, 0-1.

JAPANESE LEAGUES

PACIFIC LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct	GB
Kintetsu	3	0	0	1.000	—
Nippon Ham	1	1	0	.500	1½
Orix	1	1	0	.500	1½
Daiei	1	2	0	.333	2
Lotte	1	2	0	.333	2
Seibu	1	2	0	.333	2

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Kintetsu 5, Orix 3
Seibu 2, Lotte 1
Nippon Ham 8, Daiei 3

HOCKEY

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	40	22	13	93	258	194
N.Y. Rangers	39	21	14	92	266	210
Florida	39	28	9	87	243	218
Washington	35	29	11	83	215	189
New Jersey	34	29	12	80	198	181
Tampa Bay	34	29	12	80	220	231
N.Y. Islanders	20	47	8	48	207	293

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Pittsburgh	46	26	4	96	340	261
Montreal	39	30	8	86	252	232
Boston	36	30	10	82	262	254
Hartford	31	35	9	71	221	238
Buffalo	29	40	7	65	230	246
Ottawa	15	56	5	35	171	271

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
y-Detroit	58	12	5	121	299	164
x-Chicago	38	26	12	88	254	202
St. Louis	31	31	14	76	205	230
Toronto	31	34	12	74	229	237
Winnipeg	33	38	5	71	257	272
Dallas	24	38	13	61	210	255

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
y-Colorado	43	23	10	96	300	222
Vancouver	30	33	15	75	266	270
Calgary	31	34	11	73	222	222
Edmonton	30	39	8	68	227	285
Anaheim	30	38	7	67	217	230
Los Angeles	22	38	17	61	238	285
San Jose	18	51	7	43	225	329

y-clinched division title
x-clinched playoff spot

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Boston	0	0	1	0—1
Ottawa	0	0	1	0—1

First Period: None. Second Period: None. Third Period: O-Alfredsson 22 (Carneyworth). 2, B-Sweeney 8.. Overtime: None. Shots on goal: B- 8-8-14-3—33. O- 11-9-7-0—27. Goalies: B-Ranford. O-Rhodes.

Buffalo	3	2	1	—6
Montreal	1	1	0	—2

First Period: B-Hottinger 9 (Galley, LaFontaine) (pp). 2, B-LaFontaine 36 (Dawe, Wilson). 3. B-, Wilson 4 (Burridge, Shannon) (pp). 4. M-Kovalenko 28 (Turgeon). Second Period: B-LaFontaine 37 (Barnaby, May). 6, M-Bure 19 (Wilkie, Recchi) (pp). 7, B-Burridge 23 (Galley, Plante) (pp). Third Period: M-Recchi 27 (Turgeon). 9, M-Koivu 19 (Damphousse, Rucinsky) (pp). 10, B-, Dawe 22 (Burridge) (en). Shots on goal: B- 6-15-5—26. M- 12-22-16—50. Goalies: B-Hasek. M-Thibault, Jablonski.

Hartford	1	0	1—2
Florida	0	3	0—3

First Period: H-Cassels 19 (Shanahan, Brown) (pp). Second Period: F-Svehla 8 (Sheppard, Straka). 3, F-Mellanby 30 (Niedermayer, Garpenlov) (pp). 4, F-Sheppard 35 (Straka, Dionne). Third Period: H-Burt 4 (Daniels, Janssens). Shots on goal: H- 10-4-13—27. F- 9-16-7—32 Goalies: H-Burke. F-Vanbiesbrouck.

Edmonton	2	2	2—6
Vancouver	1	1	0—2

First Period: E-Marchant 16 (Oliver, Smith). 2, E-McAmmond 14 (Arnott). 3, V-Courtnall 24 (Robinson, Gelinas). Second Period: E-Arnott 26 (Cigar, Weight) (pp). 5, V-Gelinas 29 (Courtnall, Ronning). 6, E-, Mironov 6 (Weight, Czerkawski) (pp). Third Period: E-McAmmond 15 (Czerkawski, Siegel) (pp). 8, E-Czerkawski 17 (Siegel, Salon) (pp). Shots on goal: E- 6-6-9—21. V- 9-10-4—23. Goalies: E-Gage, V-Hirsch.

RUGBY

RUGBY UNION SUPER 12

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Natal 34, New South Wales 6
Auckland 51, Otago 29

CRICKET

SINGER CUP

SRI LANKA VS. PAKISTAN

TUESDAY, IN SINGAPORE

Sri Lanka innings: 349-9 (50 overs)
Pakistan innings: 315 (all out, 49.4 overs)
Result: Sri Lanka won by 34 runs.

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CALIFORNIA—Placed Damion Easley, infielder, on 15-day disabled list.

KANSAS CITY—Designated Rusty Meacham and Bart Evans, pitchers, for assignment. Bought contracts of Patrick Lennon, outfielder, and Julio Valera and Terry Clark, pitchers, from Omaha, AA. Optioned Ken Robinson, pitcher, to Omaha. Placed Jim Pittsley, pitcher, on 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 22.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ST. LOUIS—Placed Brian Jordan, outfielder, on 15-day disabled list. Recalled Terry Bradshaw, outfielder, from Louisville, AA.

SAN DIEGO—Optioned Dustin Hermanson, Pete Walker, Ron Villone and Tim Worrell, pitchers, to Las Vegas, PCL. Put Louis Lopez, infielder, on 15-day disabled list and assigned Lopez to Las Vegas, PCL, for rehabilitation. Signed Mike Sharperson, infielder, and Riccardo Ingram, outfielder, and assigned them to Las Vegas. Assigned John Massarelli, catcher, and Dara Clark and Darlo Veras, pitchers, to Memphis, SL. Bought contract Chris Gwynn, outfielder, from Las Vegas.

SAN FRANCISCO—Optioned Rich Aurilia, infielder, and Marvin Bernard, outfielder, to Phoenix, PCL. Assigned Chris Hook, pitcher, and Steve Decker, to minor league camp.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

DENVER—Put Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, guard, on injured list. Signed Greg Grant, guard, for remainder of season.

PHOENIX—Activated Wayman Tisdale, forward, from injured list. Put John Coker, center, on injured list.

VANCOUVER—Activated Eric Mobley, center, from the injured list. Put Doug Edwards, forward, on the injured list.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

GREEN BAY—Signed Ron Cox, linebacker, to an offer sheet. Re-signed Shannon Clowella, defensive lineman.

NEW ORLEANS—Waived Kendall Gee, guard.

N.Y. JETS—Signed Roger Duffy, guard, and John Peel, quarterback.

SAN FRANCISCO—Signed Johnny Johnson, running back, to 2-year contract. Signed Mike Caldwell, wide receiver, and Marvin Pope, linebacker.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

NHL—Suspended Montreal center Vincent Damphousse for 2 games and fined him $1,000 for a cross-checking incident.

BOSTON—Recalled Kevin Sawyer, left wing from Worcester, AHL.

DETROIT—Recalled Mathieu Dandenault, right wing, from Adirondack, AHL.

N.Y. ISLANDERS—Sent Jason Strudwick, defenseman, to Worcester, AHL. Recalled Andrei Vasilyev, left wing, and Chris Taylor, center, from Utah, IHL.

PHILADELPHIA—Recalled Dan Kordic, defenseman, from Hershey, AHL.

ST. LOUIS—Recalled Mike Buzak, goalie, from Worcester, AHL.

VANCOUVER—Fired Rick Ley, coach. Named Pat Quinn, general manager, coach for the rest of the season.

COLLEGE

BOSTON COLLEGE—Announced Mark Hartsell, quarterback, will forego his final year of eligibility.

SOUTHERN IDAHO—Named [illegible] men's basketball coach.

TENNESSEE—Signed [illegible] basketball coach, to [illegible]

SPORTS

Soccer Returns to U.S. On a Stronger Footing

World's Game Has Good Ambassador

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

THE GOOD folks of Massachusetts tell of early 17th century settlers that came across Indians playing *Pasuckquakkohowog*, a forerunner to soccer, kicking ball made of deerskin on a Cape Cod beach. Almost four centuries later, America has changed from deerskin to synthetic balls, from redskin to red beard.

Alexi Lalas, the guitar plucking Yank who did better in Italian Serie A than many of us anticipated, is back home for the latest attempt to give a professional toehold to the simple game that addicts more than 200 other nations.

"I earned good money in Italy, for a footballer its the place to be, the best league in the world." Lalas said, stroking those whiskers.

"But I wanted to do something for football back home. I didn't want to have the feeling later that I had sat back and done nothing."

'I earned good money in Italy. Its the place to be. But I wanted to do something for football back home.'

They don't always mean what they say, but this guy does.

He's a patriot, a whole-hearted individual, the soul of what America needs most if the new Major League Soccer is not to go the way of its ill-fated predecessor, the NASL, which bumped along without television backing, without the level of sponsorships that are as vital to professional sports as laces to shoes.

Above all, the launch Saturday of the MLS will center on home produce, on more than 200 American players who were in kindergarten when the North American Soccer League, with its exploitation by old lags from foreign fields, came and went.

Lalas and his pals — the likes of John Harkes, Tab Ramos, John Harkes and Eric Wynalda have matured overseas and acknowledge their calling to pass on the things they have absorbed.

May it really take off this time. May Saturday's inaugural game between the San Jose Clash and Washington DC United put down roots in the United States, where a record 3.58 million saw World Cup 94.

There is danger in the time lapse between that euphoric summer and this expectant spring. Yet Alan Rothenberg, Sunil Gulatai, and lately the new commissioner Doug Logan, were right to wait until they had the golden triangle — sport, television contract, sponsor — in place before launching another misadventure.

The abiding impression of 1994 was that Americans, and not just ethnic groups, were ready to take this game into their leisure time.

Of course the first footstep will be imperfect. Of course Americans must overcome a destructive tendency to pay too much attention to statistics, too little to the flow and ebb of creation versus sound defense.

Bigger goals, daft desires to jazz up soccer with gimmicks, are bankrupt philosophies. Play the *world* game under universal rules, accept the by-play between joy and tedium, compare soccer to baseball, basketball and ice hockey in the sense that they are games of life, mirroring what appeals and what dulls, but worthless once the shape and principles are altered to give a quick fix at the box office.

MLS has advantages the NASL never knew. It has grown this time out of a groundswell of feeling for the sport, not least by parents grateful for its low costs and grateful that, generally, neither young necks nor fragile young egos get broken.

The media is more enlightened.

The ABC and ESPN networks signed contracts even before they knew who would be playing, an act of faith that carried only a modest financial outlay but at least gave the league a chance to breathe.

Lamar Hunt, backer of the original New York Cosmos, which, with Pele, Franz Beckenbauer, Johan Cruyff, Georgie Best and Giorgio Chinaglia, was almost too good for the old league, is this time backing Colombus Crew and Atlantic City.

John Kluge, reputedly worth $7 billion, has wagered a modest sum on the New York Metrostars. And the Kraft family are into Boston's New England Revolution.

In all, 10 teams start the league, playing 32 games apiece between now and October. Budweiser will slake the thirst for more cash, Adidas, Nike, Puma and Reebok, and Kellogs are all feeding the infant.

But this time they ought not to expect it to run before it can walk. This time the foreign imports — four per team maximum — have been more carefully picked.

The NASL foundered on the well-rewarded laziness of nearly finished English old pros. This lesson has sunk in; not one English player has been invited. There is a sprinkling of Italians (Roberto Donadoni in New York), Africans (Doctor Khumalo from Soweto to Columbus) and Latins (Marco Etcheverry, Bolivia to Washington). Some are aging, some have things to prove, but the salary budgets, set by MLS at $1.3 million per club pers season, put a cap on spendthrifts and obliges the owners to build their castles with matched straws.

The world game needs and wants a fertile American playing field, and the United States will not have a better chance than this.

While the fortunes to be earned are relatively low, MLS has the this advantage: a great will to start afresh, what it must capitalize upon is human resources.

Ol' Red Beard tells it like it should be. "Good players are prepared to come here. What we haven't got yet are the fans."

That, Sir, you have to earn.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of the Times of London

Barcelona Battles to a Draw

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

A late goal by the Romanian World Cup star Gheorghe Hagi helped Barcelona to a 2-2 draw at Bayern Munich on Tuesday, increasing the Spanish team's chances of reaching the UEFA Cup final.

In a semifinal first leg played in sleet and freezing temperatures, Hagi took advantage of a calamitous pass from Bayern's German international defender, Markus Babbel, to fire home with his left foot in the 77th minute.

The goal was a psychological blow to Bayern, which had battled back from

European Soccer

behind with two goals in five minutes in the second half following a 15th-minute Barcelona strike by Oscar Garcia.

Bayern, bidding for its first European trophy in 20 years, looked in real trouble after Garcia, set up by José Maria Bakero, lodged a firm shot from the edge of the box past Oliver Kahn's outstretched left hand.

Barcelona dominated until the break, although a Jean-Pierre Papin header just missed scoring.

But Bayern came out in the second half with new purpose and took a 2-1 lead on goals from Marcel Witeczek and Mehmet Scholl in the 52d and 57th minutes.

Hagi's equalizer for Barcelona ensured Bayern will have tough going in the second leg in Spain in two weeks.

Bordeaux 1, Slavia Prague 0 Christophe Dugarry stunned the home team in the 9th minute to give Girondins Bordeaux a victory over Slavia Prague in the first-leg UEFA cup semifinal match in Prague.

The winning goal came as Zinedine Zidane got past Martin Hysky in the penalty area and served a perfect pass to Dugarry, who had no trouble shooting past goaltender Jan Stejskal.

"We got an early goal and that's what decided the match, but there's still hope," said Frantisek Cipro, Slavia's coach. The second leg of the semifinal will be played in France in two weeks.

Slavia started out on the offensive but its inexperienced team failed to take advantage of the home field. Bordeaux proved to be the more dangerous team, with Zidane and Dugarry outclassing Slavia's defense with imaginative passing in the first half.

Dugarry came close to scoring again in the 15th minute, when he hit the goal post to the left of Stejskal with a shot from 20 meters off a left-wing pass from Zidane.

Tomas Hunal replaced Hysky in the 28th minute in an effort to strengthen Slavia's defense. but Slavia never recovered from the initial shock. Strikers Vladimir Smicer and Robert Vagner could not penetrate Bordeaux's defense.

Gaetan Huard, in goal for Bordeaux, caught a header from Lubos Kozel in the 23d minute in what was Slavia's only scoring chance in the first half.



Paul Hanya/Reuters

Barcelona's Richard Witshge jumping over Vladimir Smicer for a pass.

Puckett Misses Opener But Twins Win

The Associated Press

Brad Radke and Matt Lawton made sure the Minnesota Twins did not need Kirby Puckett on opening day.

With vision problems keeping Puckett out of the opening-day lineup for the

AL Roundup

first time since 1984, Radke struck out a career-high eight and Lawton had two hits and batted in two runs in Puckett's place as the Twins beat the Detroit Tigers, 8-6, Monday.

After John Flaherty opened the second inning with a hit, Radke retired 15 of the last 17 batters he faced. Dave Hollins had two hitsin his Minnesota debut before 30,195 at the Metrodome.

Rangers 5, Red Sox 3 Ken Hill, making his debut for Texas, allowed eight hits in 8⅔ innings in Arlington.

Craig Worthington, starting because Dean Palmer had an injured hamstring, homered for the Rangers.

Hill pitched for St. Louis and Cleveland last year, then signed an $8.15 million, two-year deal with Texas. He struck out seven and walked none.

Roger Clemens, 3-1 in seven previous season openers, allowed four runs and three hits in five innings, struck out five and walked six.

Blue Jays 9, Athletics 6 John Olerud, Alex Gonzalez and Domingo Cedeno hit home runs off Carlos Reyes, who made just his 11th career start.

With the wind gusting to 26 miles per hour in Las Vegas, Terry Steinbach and Geronimo Berroa homered for the A's. The A's are playing their first six games in Las Vegas because renovations at Oakland Coliseum are still being finished.

It was the first major league game at a minor league ballpark since Sept. 3, 1957, when Philadelphia beat Brooklyn, 3-2, in 12 innings at Roosevelt Stadium in Jersey City, New Jersey.

The Yankees game in Cleveland was snowed out and Kansas City at Baltimore was rained out.

The Dodgers Unveil Yet Another Rookie Wonder

The Associated Press

The Los Angeles Dodgers unveiled their latest candidate for Rookie of the Year, the New York Mets showed off the next Ozzie Smith and the Chicago Cubs welcomed back one of their greatest heroes.

But opening day in the National League was overshadowed by the death of umpire John McSherry. He collapsed

NL Roundup

while working behind home plate in Cincinnati and was pronounced dead shortly thereafter.

Dodgers 4, Astros 3 Todd Hollandsworth, a rookie only because two injuries disabled him for most of last season, hit the decisive three-run double off Shane Reynolds in the fifth inning — his fifth hit in six career at-bats against the Houston right-hander.

"I told him the other day, 'You just don't know how good of a talent you have. You don't know how good you're going to be,'" Tommy Lasorda, the Dodgers' manager, said of Hollandsworth. "He's got good foot speed, he can go get the ball in the outfield and he's got some pop in his bat."

Hollandsworth is trying to follow Eric Karros, Mike Piazza, Raul Mondesi and Hideo Nomo — the last four winners — and become the 16th Dodger to claim the Jackie Robinson award for rookie of the year.

Hollandsworth's hit gave Ramon Martinez his seventh consecutive regular-season victory. Martinez allowed three runs on six hits — including a home run by Jeff Bagwell — in six innings.

Mets 7, Cardinals 6 New York rallied from a 6-0 deficit, largely because of rookie shortstop Rey Ordonez.

With the Mets trailing 6-3 in the sixth inning, Ordonez ranged behind second base to stop a grounder and threw across his body to retire the batter. Then he made a perfect pivot on a difficult inning-ending double play.

In the seventh, Ordonez threw out Royce Clayton — who started ahead of Smith at shortstop — at the plate.In the bottom of the inning, the Ordonez, 24, got one of five hits as the Mets rallied for four runs.

Jerry DiPoto worked two innings to get the victory. John Franco pitched the ninth for the save, but it wasn't his work he wanted to discuss.

"Scary," Franco said of Ordonez's defense. "And the guys that have played with him said you ain't see nothing yet."

Willie McGee hit a three-run homer in his return to the Cardinals, with whom his major league career began 14 years ago.

But the St. Louis bullpen failed, giving Tony La Russa a loss in his first game as an NL manager.

Cubs 5, Padres 4 Although he went hitless in three at-bats, Ryne Sandberg, playing his first game in 22 months, flawlessly handled seven chances at second base and walked for the second time in the game before Mark Grace beat Trevor Hoffman with a single.

Both Rey Sanchez and Scott Servais homered and drove in two runs for the Cubs, helping reliever Bob Patterson get the victory. Wally Joyner went two-for-three with a run batted in his first game with San Diego.

Braves 10, Giants 8 Greg Maddux began his quest for a fifth straight Cy Young Award with an un-Maddux-like performance, but got enough run support from the Atlanta Braves to beat San Francisco.

Ryan Klesko hit a two-run homer and a two-run single for Atlanta. Jeff Blauser, Fred McGriff, Mark Lemke and Jerome Walton also homered for the Braves, who scored six runs in five innings off Mark Leiter.

Pirates 4, Marlins 0 Jason Kendall, making his major-league debut, caught a shutout in addition to getting three hits and two RBIs as the Pirates beat Florida.

Kendall, 21, also threw out a runner attempting to steal as Pittsburgh ruined Florida's opener.

"I was nervous," said the son of former major league catcher Fred Kendall. "But I'll probably be nervous the rest of my career."

Pirates manager Jim Leyland said: "Let's not put him in the Hall of Fame yet. But it was a great first night."

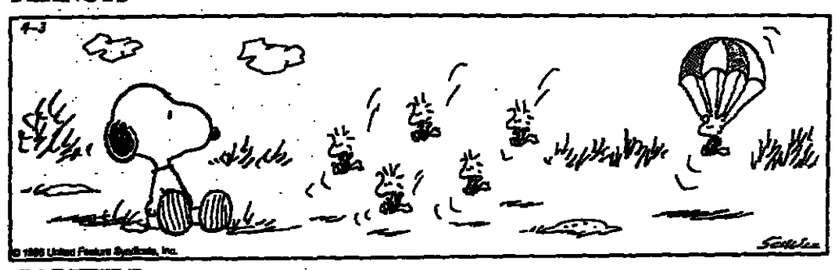
Paul Wagner pitched 6⅔ scoreless innings for Pittsburgh. Jay Bell had two RBIs for the Pirates.

• The Montreal-Cincinnati game was postponed until Tuesday after McSherry collapsed at Riverfront Stadium. The other scheduled opener — Colorado at Philadelphia — was postponed Sunday when the Phillies were presented with a forecast for heavy rain Monday. The forecast was accurate.

DENNIS THE MENACE



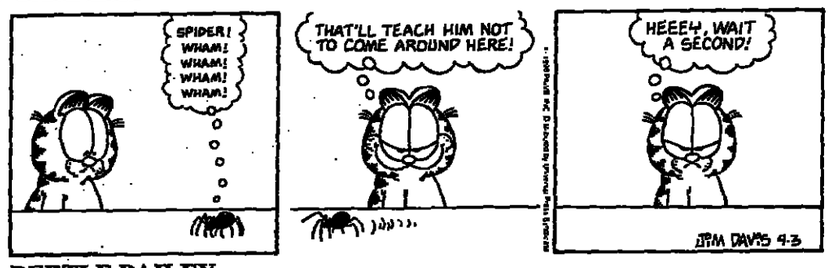
PEANUTS



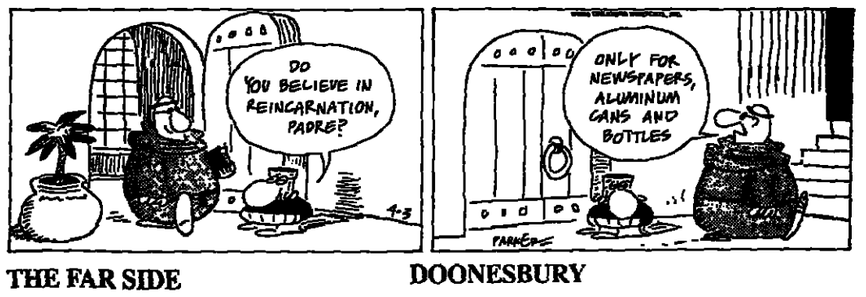
CALVIN AND HOBBES



GARFIELD

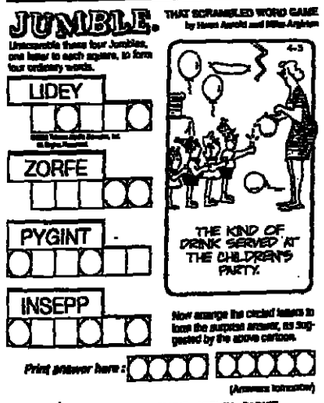


WIZARD of ID



JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: () ()

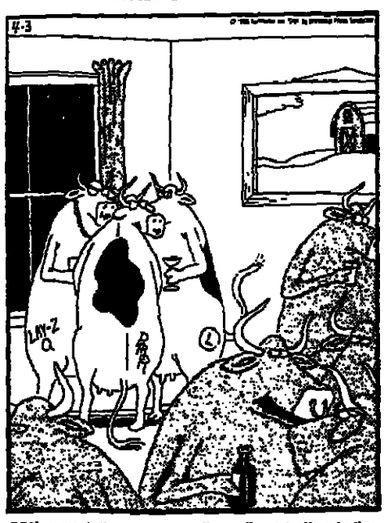
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IDIOM FLUKE MISLAY SADIST
Answer: A rock star between jobs becomes this — AN IDLE IDOL

BEETLE BAILEY



THE FAR SIDE



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BLONDIE



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OBSERVER

The New New York

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — After long absence from New York you notice things that full-time New Yorkers have quit seeing. Has it been widely observed, for instance, that the famously talky New York cabdriver is gone with the Trylon and Perisphere, the $1.50 second-balcony ticket for the best show on Broadway, Yankee Stadium crowds wearing fedoras and business suits, and old Delmonico's where men with diamond studs glittering on starched shirts may or may not have drunk from Lillian Russell's slipper?

The end-of-century New York cabbie doesn't talk because he knows you couldn't understand him if he did. He speaks Russian, Urdu, Haitian French, Swahili, Arabic, demotic Bulgarian, Hindi, ancient Persian, Cappadocian, Parthian or one of several hundred Asian tongues.

Many understand enough basic New York dialect to deliver customers to desired destinations, but understanding a request for a receipt leaves many baffled.

□

Another thing: While it is true that New York is constantly being torn down and rebuilt, some parts are so slow to change that New York — now that nobody calls it "Gotham" anymore — could call itself "The Eternal City" if Rome hadn't copyrighted the title.

Yes, I refer to the eternal ruin of Hudson Street at the Holland Tunnel exit. Here is a great thoroughfare capable of shaking the engine right out of your car. A huge piece of earth-digging machinery was there the other day, undoubtedly excavating great new potholes with which to enrich this amazing ruin.

Back to taxicabs: Why is it that as the fare gets bigger and bigger the cabs get smaller and smaller? It is because in New York there is a correlation between seat size and price. Notice that Broadway theaters, with seats that only a midget could fit comfortably, are now charging $70 for full-size people to use them.

□

And the noise, oh the noise! Blooded New Yorkers don't hear the noise anymore, a good thing too. The population would probably go mad and start complaining about the noise if they could hear it, and New York could never work if New Yorkers started complaining.

Under your bedroom window a gigantic truck announces its arrival with a roar that wakes you in terror — and spends the next three hours grinding the entire contents of a 30-story building.

In New York a sudden outbreak of silence can be psychologically devastating. Famously nasty old 42d Street between Seventh and Eighth Avenues is not quite silent, to be sure, but it has such a look of death upon it that it feels silent.

Once you could walk from Seventh to Eighth Avenue and be certain that during the few minutes it took for the stroll, every crime known to humanity was being either planned or committed in that block.

Now this famous citadel of sleaze is mostly shuttered. Sin is only a faded memory. The place looks abandoned, ruined, dead. It feels so terribly quiet, and you realize how awful New York would be without the noise and all that creates it.

New York Times Service

The Spirit of a Berlin Theater Legend Persists

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

BERLIN — Within days after the revered playwright, poet, director and translator Heiner Müller died of throat cancer on Dec. 30, the question of who would succeed him as artistic director of the Berliner Ensemble, Germany's best-known theater company, was being hotly debated.

Behind-the-scenes lobbying was already intense by the time Müller was buried on Jan. 16 in the same cemetery where Bertolt Brecht lies.

In Germany, where theaters receive heavy government subsidies — the Berliner Ensemble will get about $15 million this year — choosing a new artistic director for any theater is a process the public follows closely. It is especially delicate at the Berliner Ensemble, which has been one of the most important German theaters for decades and which Müller had reinvigorated with exciting and challenging productions.

The theater's board of directors was charged *with making the choice, but as is* customary in Germany, performers and others who work at the ensemble were encouraged to offer suggestions. Government officials, including Berlin's newly installed culture minister, Peter Radunski, also took a discreet interest.

But few predicted that the final choice would be Martin Wuttke, 33, who a few months earlier had won rave reviews for his performance in the last play Müller directed, Brecht's *Third Reich parable* "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui."

At a press conference after the decision was announced, reporters pressed Wuttke about his plans for the Berliner Ensemble, but he said he had made no decisions and seemed self-deprecatory to the point of embarrassment.

Asked if he thought those who selected him for his new job had made a wise choice, he replied, "No, I think it may turn out to have been very unwise."

When it was pointed out to him that he would now be dealing with powerful figures in the cultural and political worlds, he looked pained and said: "Power has never interested me at all. I don't know anything about it, but I guess now I'm going to have to learn how to live with it."

The uncertainty surrounding the Berliner Ensemble is not entirely because of Wuttke's inexperience. Nor can it be attributed to the playwright Rolf Hochhuth's secretly engineered deal to buy the company's home theater, the Theater am Schiffbauerdamm, from its prewar owners (who according to a court decision this month still have a legal claim to it) and then impose his own artistic vision beginning in 1998.

The main reason is that the Berliner Ensemble, like the rest of the German theater world, is still in shock about Müller's death. Widely admired during his lifetime, Müller, who was 66, now seems to have passed into the pantheon of Germany's great cultural heroes. In an outpouring of admiration, he has been hailed as a genius who captured this country's guilt-laden soul more poetically than any playwright since Brecht.

The Berliner Ensemble's theater was packed during an eight-day marathon reading of his work, and a memorial service there, transmitted live on national television, was attended by many of the nation's most admired writers, directors, performers and politicians.

In the hours before Müller was buried, another Berlin theater, the Volksbühne, sponsored an all-night gathering at which guests were provided with cigars and whisky, both of which Müller had consumed with abandon. Only relatives and friends were admitted to the burial service, but thousands waited outside the cemetery gates and filed past his grave after the guests had departed.



Gerard

The late Heiner Müller, the esteemed artistic director of the Berliner Ensemble.

Among participants in the ceremonies were Günter Grass, Robert Wilson, Volker Schlöndorff, Daniel Barenboim, Susan Sontag, Mayor Eberhard Diepgen of Berlin, former President Richard von Weizsäcker and Hans Modrow, the last Communist leader of East Germany.

Nothing comparable had been seen in Germany since the death of the writer Heinrich Böll a decade ago.

By the 1960s, after his early plays based on motifs from antiquity, Müller had found the themes that were to occupy him for most of his career: Germany and the catastrophes of its history, the brutal chaos of the world, and the necessity of facing the evil aspects of history and humanity.

His influences were as varied as Schopenhauer and Sartre, Kant and Pound, Nietzsche and Poe, Shakespeare and Faulkner. Haunted by the horrors of the 20th century, he forced audiences to confront the apocalyptic legacies of Hitler and Stalin.

Müller was in constant conflict with East Germany's cultural commissars, but he never lost his faith in Marxist ideals and passed up many chances to flee to the West. His dense, often difficult plays have been performed in theaters from Paris and Sofia to Texas and California. His two best-known works, "Quartett" and "Hamletmaschine," established him as an author of classic quality and brought him acclaim and honors.

By one count, 252 German theaters produced one or more of his works during the 1993-94 season alone. The Berliner Ensemble has added "Quartett" to its current repertory in a production starring Wuttke.

Before he died, Müller had announced plans to unveil his newest play, "Germania 3," at the Berliner Ensemble this spring. Those plans stand, and although a director has not been found, Wuttke may take on the task himself.

The play is described as another in Müller's series of works confronting the dark side of his now-united homeland, the country with which he maintained a stormy and often bitter relationship.

"The cancer in Heiner Müller's throat," asserted the veteran actress Käthe Reichel in her tribute, "was Germany."

POSTCARD

Winnie Mandela Home May Become Tourist Site

By Suzanne Daley
New York Times Service

BRANDFORT, South Africa — Even on a weekday afternoon, Brandfort's dusty main street is almost deserted.

Town Hall only opens for "occasions" — mostly weddings. Even the liquor-store owner says he does not make enough money to remodel his store, so the separate entrances for whites and blacks remain.

But there are some town residents who think Brandfort — a hard four-hour drive from Johannesburg and deep into sheep country — might just have a shot as a tourist attraction.

After all, this is the town where Winnie Mandela was forced to spend almost nine years under house arrest, tucked out of sight in the tumbledown black section.

Some of the whites in town admit they were barely aware of Mandela's presence when she lived here and not all that curious about her plight. But lately they have been reading up on her. Now that Nelson Mandela is the country's first black president, the town's Tourism Forum thinks it would be a money-maker to turn his ex-wife's former house into a museum.

"Of course, I hadn't had any real interest," said Carine Coetzer, the head of the newly organized Forum. "We never had any contact with her. But now that this has fallen on my head, I've been trying to find out a little more."

Coetzer, who grew up here, has done enough research to know that the recently divorced Mandela, who is 61, was not actually born in Brandfort, but did help organize a day-care center for black children. Before that, all she knew was that Mandela's attempts to enter stores through the whites-only entrance had caused some "jabbering."

How she behaved when she lived here is a matter of some controversy. There are stories of drinking and extravagant spending, made possible by the contributions that poured in to support her.

But there are many residents who remember a "lady" who built a one-room medical clinic and a small book- and videotape-lending library in her yard. She distributed food and helped pay tuitions.

The town is looking for financing. Coetzer believes there is some possibility that the new government may help out, but she cannot recall the name of the official she discussed this with. "He is a black man," she said, "and you know how difficult their names are to remember."

WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America Washington, D.C., and New York City will have chilly, and at times wet, weather Thursday through Saturday. Chicago and Toronto will be unseasonably cold, perhaps with snow at times. Miami will be quite warm with little rainfall. The West Coast will be mainly dry and warm.

Europe Mainly dry weather will continue across northern Europe, including London, Paris and Amsterdam, Thursday through Saturday. The only travel problem may be some fog. The south will be stormy. Showers will dampen Spain and Portugal, while rain stretches from Italy through Greece to Turkey.

Asia Tokyo and Seoul will have dry weather on Thursday, but the week will end with rain, even thunderstorms. Windy, cool and mainly dry weather will follow for the weekend. Shanghai will have rain Thursday, then dry, cool weather Friday and Saturday. Hong Kong will be warm and humid with a few showers.

Europe

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Algarve	18/64	12/53 c	19/66	12/53 pc
Amsterdam	5/41	0/32 c	4/39	1/34 pc
Ankara	12/53	4/39 pc	19/66	8/46 c
Athens	19/66	12/53 pc	22/71	13/55 c
Barcelona	18/61	4/39 pc	14/57	7/44 pc
Belgrade	15/59	7/44 sh	16/64	6/43 c
Berlin	4/39	-2/28 pc	6/46	1/34 pc
Brussels	6/43	-2/28 r	5/41	-1/31 pc
Budapest	9/48	4/39 r	12/53	4/39 pc
Copenhagen	3/37	-2/28 c	4/39	0/32 pc
Costa Del Sol	17/62	11/52 c	18/66	12/53 pc
Dublin	8/46	2/35 pc	10/50	3/37 pc
Edinburgh	7/44	3/37 c	8/46	4/39 s
Florence	14/57	6/43 r	14/57	4/39 sh
Frankfurt	6/43	-3/27 pc	8/46	1/34 c
Geneva	8/46	-2/28 c	8/46	0/32 c
Helsinki	-2/28	-8/18 sn	-1/31	-6/22 c
Istanbul	15/59	6/43 pc	17/62	10/50 pc
Las Palmas	22/71	16/61 s	24/75	18/64 s
Lisbon	16/61	11/52 c	16/64	11/52 pc
London	4/39	1/34 pc	9/48	3/37 pc
Madrid	14/57	5/41 pc	16/61	4/39 pc
Milan	12/53	2/35 r	12/53	2/35 sh
Moscow	2/35	-5/24 sn	2/35	-3/27 pc
Munich	6/43	-2/28 r	9/48	0/32 c
Nice	13/55	5/41 sh	13/55	5/41 sh
Oslo	2/35	-2/28 pc	6/43	-3/27 pc
Palma de Mallorca	15/59	6/43 pc	13/55	7/44 pc
Paris	7/44	-2/28 pc	8/46	1/34 c
Prague	6/43	-2/28 sn	7/44	1/34 pc
Reykjavik	6/43	3/37 c	6/43	2/35 r
Rome	17/62	7/44 s	16/61	4/39 sh
St. Petersburg	0/32	-4/18 sn	0/32	-7/20 pc
Stockholm	1/34	-3/27 sn	4/39	-2/28 c
Strasbourg	10/50	-3/27 pc	8/46	0/32 pc
Tallinn	-2/28	-7/20 sn	-1/31	-6/22 c
Venice	13/55	7/44 sh	13/55	5/43 sh
Vienna	8/46	3/37 r	11/52	3/37 pc
Warsaw	5/41	-1/31 c	6/43	-1/31 pc
Zurich	8/46	-2/28 r	9/48	1/34 c

Oceania

Auckland	19/66	13/55 r	19/66	13/55 pc
Sydney	22/71	14/57 pc	22/71	15/59 pc

Asia

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Bangkok	34/93	25/77 pc	34/93	26/79 c
Beijing	11/52	1/34 pc	13/55	1/34 s
Hong Kong	23/71	18/66 c	23/73	20/68 r
Manila	33/91	23/73 pc	32/89	23/73 pc
New Delhi	33/91	18/64 s	37/98	20/68 s
Seoul	8/43	-3/27 s	5/41	-5/24 pc
Shanghai	13/55	2/35 pc	15/59	6/43 pc
Singapore	32/89	25/77 t	32/89	24/75 r
Taipei	20/68	14/57 sh	19/66	17/62 r
Tokyo	10/50	4/39 c	7/44	3/37 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	27/80	18/64 c	23/73	15/59 pc
Caracas	29/84	19/66 pc	29/84	18/64 pc
Lima	24/75	19/66 pc	23/73	19/66 pc
Mexico City	20/68	9/48 pc	23/73	8/46 pc
Rio de Janeiro	32/89	22/71 pc	32/89	22/71 pc
Santiago	27/80	8/48 pc	27/80	8/48 pc

North America

Anchorage	-1/31	-7/20 pc	4/39	-1/31 pc
Atlanta	20/68	9/48 s	24/75	11/52 pc
Boston	8/46	1/34 r	9/48	2/35 pc
Chicago	10/50	4/39 pc	10/50	1/34 r
Denver	24/75	3/37 pc	17/62	1/34 c
Detroit	8/48	2/35 c	8/48	2/35 r
Honolulu	27/80	21/70 c	28/82	21/70 pc
Houston	24/75	13/55 s	24/75	14/57 pc
Los Angeles	21/70	11/52 s	20/79	12/53 s
Miami	25/77	14/57 pc	26/79	16/64 pc
Minneapolis	6/43	1/34 c	9/48	-3/27 r
Montreal	3/37	-8/22 s	4/39	2/35 pc
Nassau	28/79	20/68 pc	27/80	19/66 pc
New York	8/46	0/32 pc	11/52	6/43 pc
Phoenix	27/80	15/58 s	30/86	16/61 s
San Fran.	16/61	9/48 pc	21/70	10/50 pc
Seattle	11/52	4/39 r	12/53	7/44 c
Toronto	3/37	-3/27 pc	7/44	-1/31 c
Vancouver	10/50	6/43 r	12/53	6/43 c
Washington	12/53	2/35 s	17/62	8/46 pc

Middle East

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Abu Dhabi	33/91	21/70 s	34/93	22/71 s
Beirut	21/70	13/55 pc	22/71	14/57 s
Cairo	27/80	8/46 s	32/89	15/59 s
Damascus	21/70	6/43 s	25/77	12/53 s
Jerusalem	20/68	9/48 s	23/73	13/55 s
Luxor	36/97	14/57 s	38/100	16/61 s
Riyadh	34/93	21/70 pc	36/97	20/68 s

Africa

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
Algiers	16/61	12/53 c	15/59	9/48 c
Cape Town	21/70	14/57 pc	25/77	14/57 s
Casablanca	18/64	10/50 c	20/68	14/57 s
Harare	29/84	9/48 pc	24/75	10/50 s
Lagos	32/89	25/77 pc	31/88	25/77 pc
Nairobi	21/70	14/57 t	21/70	14/57 t
Tunis	18/64	11/52 c	16/61	5/41 c

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

PEOPLE

HAVING puzzled the musical world with a bizarre name change and his sudden marriage, Prince has another announcement: He's about to become a father. The musical iconoclast and his wife, Mayte Garcia, who were married on Feb. 14, are expecting a baby in November. The baby will be the first child for both, and Prince will be 38 when it arrives. According to a statement, "the proud couple were overjoyed at the news and are already busy making preparations for their new role as parents." Prince, who was born Prince Rogers Nelson in June 1958, changed his name to an unpronounceable squiggle several years ago and no longer answers to his original name. He met Mayte after placing newspaper ads around the United States seeking "the most beautiful girl in the world" for his stage act.

□

Roseanne knows exactly what's wrong with television, and it's not her. "I love television, but the majority of people who work in television hate television, which translates into hatred for the audience," she said in an interview in the May issue of Spin magazine. "I know what television means; I always have. It's our companion, it's our teacher, it's our everything."

□

Anjelica Huston's movie directing debut, "Bastard Out of Carolina," is, it seems, just too good for Ted Turner. So he rejected it for his Turner Broadcasting System. The trade paper Daily Variety quoted an unidentified Turner executive as saying that the film is a "stunning, powerful work" and Huston "deserves tremendous respect for her directorial debut." The film, based on the Dorothy Allison best seller, is about a girl with an abusive stepfather and an uncaring mother. Turner watched the film and decided he wanted nothing to do with it, sources told Variety. Of particular concern to Turner was a rape scene involving the girl, the sources said.

□

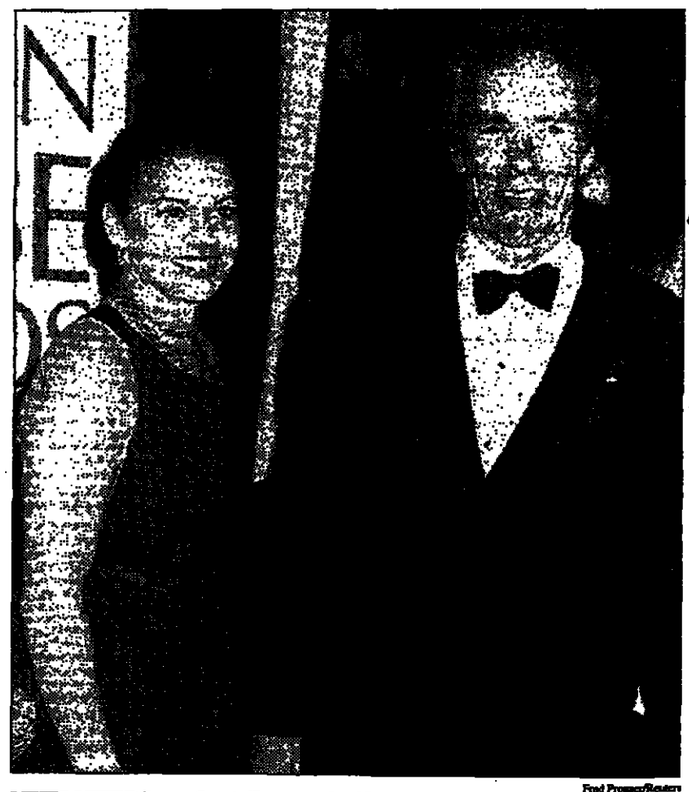
Elizabeth Hurley has found a way to keep a close eye on her wayward boyfriend **Hugh Grant**: produce his movies. The model is producing "Extreme Measure," starring Grant, and he jokes she is taking the title literally when it comes to critiquing his work. "You see my bloody nose? That was after she saw dailies last night," Grant said during an interview broadcast Tuesday. And at the end of the day? "We just go home and fight," Grant said. Grant was arrested last June with a prostitute. He pleaded no contest to lewd conduct.

□

Christopher Reeve, the paralyzed former "Superman" star who brought Hollywood stars to tears at last week's Oscar ceremony, is resuming his movie career — as the voice of King Arthur. The announcement by Max Howard, president of Warner Bros. Feature Animation, said Reeve will provide the voice of the legendary head of the knights of the Round Table in the forthcoming animated feature "The Quest for Camelot." Reeve was paralyzed from the neck down after a fall from a horse last year.

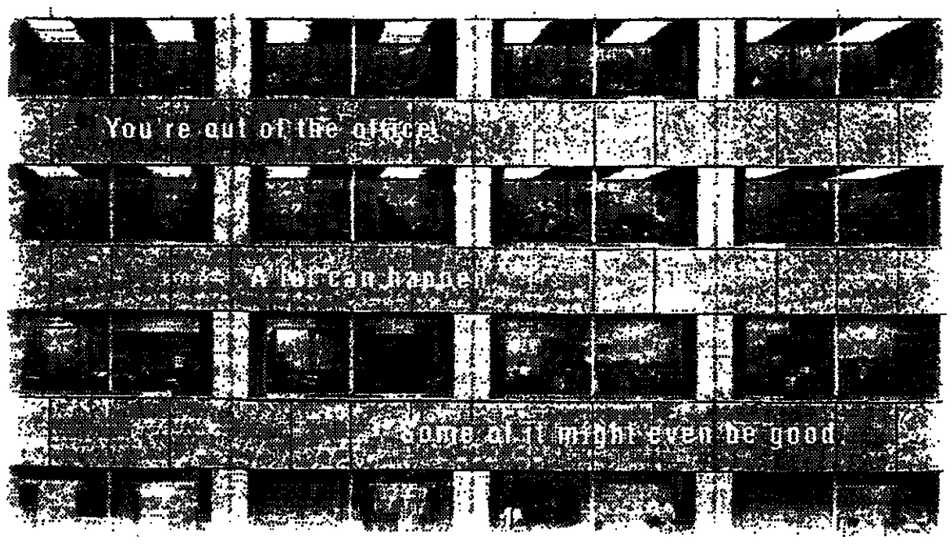
□

A British newspaper claims that Princess Diana reduced the girlfriend of the queen's youngest son, Prince Edward, to tears with spiteful remarks over her hairstyle and her fashion sense. The Sun tabloid quoted friends of Sophie Rhys-Jones, 31 — who has been dating Edward for more than two years — as saying Diana was jealous of the attention given to the new face in royal circles, notably by Queen Elizabeth II.



Fred Prouser/Reuters

NEWLYWEDS — Clint Eastwood, 65, and Dina Ruiz, 30, a television anchorwoman, were married in a small private ceremony in Las Vegas.



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Germany	0130-0010
Greece*	00-800-1311
Hungary*	000800-01111
Iceland*	800 9001
Ireland	1-800-550-000
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Lithuania◆	80196
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Russia*†(Moscow)	155-5042
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Turkey*	99-800-12277
Ukraine†	80100-11
United Kingdom	0500-89-0011

MIDDLE EAST

Bahrain■	800-001
Cyprus*■	080-90010
Egypt* (Cairo)◆	510-0200
Israel	177-100-2727
Jordan■	18 800 000
Kuwait■	800-288
Lebanon (Beirut)*††■	426-801
Qatar■	0800-811-77
Saudi Arabia■	1-800-10
Syria	0-801
U. Arab Emirates*■	800-121

AFRICA

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Gambia*	00111
Ghana	0191
Ivory Coast*	00-111-11
Kenya†	0800-10
Liberia	797-797
Morocco■	002-11-0011
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Guatemala††	190
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